THE LONDON AND

China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON THE ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS (VIA MARSEILLES).

In connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS," published on the departure of the Mails.

VOL. III.—No. 60. | LONDON, MONDAY, MAY 13, 1861. | Sub. 18s per ann., and 12s. to Supplement. Single copy of either, 9d.

THE PUBLICATION OF THIS PAPER
COMMENCED AT 4 P.M.
SUBSCRIBERS' COPIES POSTED AND DELIVERED
AT 5 P.M.

Latest Advices.

		From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—				
	Yedo			March 4
	Kanagawa			Feb. 25
	Nagasaki			
CHINA—				March 10
	Peking			" 15
	Tien-tsin			" 23
	Shanghai	Jan. 26	March 19	" 20
	Ningpo			" 23
	Foo-Chow-Foo	" "	" 21	" 25
	Amoy			" 29
	Swatow			Apr 1
	Hong Kong	Feb. 11.	" 27	March 31
	Canton			
	Macao			
PHILIPPINES—				
	Manila	Jan. 26	" 20	" 24
COCHIN-CHINA—				
	Touron			
	Saigon			" 31
SIAM—				
	Bankok			" 29
BORNEO—				
	Labuan			" 2
	Sarawak			" 27
JAVA—				
	Batavia			April 3
MALACCA STRAITS—				
	Singapore	Feb. 26	April 4	" 9
	Penang	" "	" 2	" 11

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this Mail.—From Hong Kong for Marseilles: Lieut.-Col. Wolseley, R. O. Major, D.A.Q.M.G., Capt. Warren, P. H. Underwood; Messrs. Lucy, Sheafield, W. T. H. Chapman, F. M. de Ugarte, Theofilide, B. T. Fernando, d'Escavrac de Lauture, and C. G. Calvo. For Southampton: Mrs. Coutts and two children, Capt. and Mrs. Blackmore and child, Capt. Simesen, Rev. Mr. Crowther, Capt. N. Bursluir, Capt. Hon. B. Hamilton (44th Regt.), Lieut. Shaw, Mrs. Green; Messrs. C. N. Wood, Hearne (44th Regt.), W. H. Addaru, R.N., D. Mossman, Pooley, A. J. Martin, and eleven servants. For Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and four children. For Alexandria: Mr. C. W. Orne, Mr. J. G. Purdon, Capt. Ribigtiari. For Sydney: Mr. J. C. Gilbert. For Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Gubbay and infant. For Melbourne: D. A. G. General Bailey.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O str., 4th May.—From Southampton to Hong Kong: Mr. J. H. Beckwith, Ens. Story, Messrs. A. Andrews, Kingsmill, A. Simpson. To Shanghai: Mr. F. Fabris. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. D'Almeida and infant, Mr. Otto Sialcken. From Marseilles, 12th May, to Hong Kong: Mrs. Medhurst. Mrs. Percival. To Singapore: Mr. Vander Hoist, Mr. Holthans. To Shanghai: Mr. Thomas. From Malta to Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Thorburr.

Per P. and O. str., 20th May.—From Southampton to Hong Kong: Mr. Fenwick, Mr. S. Watson, Ens. Cotton, Mr. Piecope, Mr. Wilkinson. To Shanghai: Mr. Westall. To Penang: Mrs. Scott, three children and governess. From Marseilles, 28th May, to Hong Kong: Mr. Perceval.

Per P. and O. str., 4th June, from Southampton to Shanghai: Mr. John Mackillop. From Marseilles, 12th June, to Hong Kong: Dr. W. Lockhart. To Shanghai: Mrs. Parkes.

Per P. and O. str., 20th June, from Southampton to Hong Kong: Mr. Maintz.

Per P. and O. str., 20th August.—From Southampton to Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Woods.

Per Foam to Hong Kong: Mr. Arthur Hill.

ADDITIONAL PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

On the 20th of May, Southampton to Hong Kong.—Mrs. Randall and infant. 4th June, Southampton to Hong Kong.—Mr. Sheppard.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED OUTWARD.

At Hong Kong, per Strathallan from London.—Capt. Montgomery, of the 60th Rifles, Ensign Gosling, Ensign Sutherland, Assistant-Surgeons Palwasser and Kemp, and twenty-two Army Hospital Corps. Per Aquitaine from Bordeaux.—M. M. George W. de Grandmaison, Henri Guillet, and Eugene Guillet. Per Behar, mail steamer, from England, &c.—Dr. Mackay, Don E. Santos; Messrs. Hancock, Rainbow, Friedlander, Lamb, Price, Stadd, Magee, McConnachie, Middleton, Funk, Platt, J. Stephens, and Reine.

Summary of News from the Far East.

THE YANG-TSZE EXPEDITION.

The account we have received by this mail of the expedition up the river Yang-tsze, is extremely interesting and important. This account reached Shanghai on the 16th March by Messrs. Dent and Co.'s steamer *Yang-tsze*, which vessel left Hangkow on the 10th, and met H.M.'s ships on the same evening at anchor within fifty miles of that port. The river has been declared open above Chin-kiang, and as far as Hangkow to British vessels. The notification which we publish below states fully the provisional regulations under which the river is henceforth to be thrown open to British trade. The intercourse both with Imperialists and rebels has been hitherto satisfactory, with the exception of a slight and happily bloodless *fracas* between the Taepings and the crew of the *Waterman*. The accounts from all quarters tell the same sad tale of the awful devastation which marks the track of the rebels. Villages in flames, houses without inhabitants, dead bodies left to be devoured by dogs, testify to the cruelty of the Taepings. Nanking and Chin-kiang are both in ruins. At the former city all trade is stopped, and the people are said to be in literal slavery. The inhabited portions of the city, if laid together, would not, according to the *North China Herald*, make up a very large village. The same journal informs us that Hung-tsu-stien is not dead, as was reported, but that he is still the prime director of the movement, while Mr. Roberts, his former teacher, is holding rank at Nanking, and wearing robes of Imperial yellow, but not exercising any functions of the Government.

The *Centaur*, and a gunboat, remain off Nanking to preserve order and neutrality. The squadron left Nanking on the 2nd March, passed Taeping, Kyan-king,—a large city in possession of the rebels, but beseiged by Chin-koo-fang, the ablest of the Imperial generals, Tu-nglin and Hukow. Here the *Atalante* was left in order to make a survey of the Poyang Lake. The rest of the squadron passed on to Kiu-kiang, where they learnt that the people had direct communication by the creeks all the way to Shanghai. Kiu-kiang is said to form the best place for an intermediate port between Hankow and Chin-kiang. Here, therefore, as well as at the two other cities, a British Consulate will be established. On the 11th March Admiral Hope was close upon Hankow, the goal of the expedition, but it is probable that one or more of the vessels will proceed as far as the Tungting Lake. It is a notable fact that coal can be purchased at Kiu-kiang for 540 cash per picul, and at Hangkow for 350 cash per picul. This will greatly facilitate the steam navigation of the river, which bids fair to be rapidly promoted by our trade.

The following is the Notification referred to above, to which Her Majesty's Consul at Shanghai gives notice that he is prepared to give full effect, "pending instructions from Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Chief Superintendent of Trade":—

NOTIFICATION.

Referring to the Notification of His Excellency the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.T.G.C.B., &c., dated Hong Kong, Jan. 20, 1861, informing Her Majesty's subjects in China of the measures then being taken to give effect to the arrangement concluded between Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and the Imperial Commissioner for opening the Yang-tsze river to British trade, the undersigned is now authorised by His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief to declare the river, above Chin-kiang, and as far as Hankow, to be open, in accordance with that arrangement, to British vessels, under the accompanying regulations, which are pro-

visional until they have received the sanction of His Excellency the Hon. Mr. Bruce, C.B., and the Peking Government.

His Excellency, the Naval Commander-in-Chief, has furnished the undersigned, for the information of Her Majesty's subjects in China, with the annexed extracts of a communication, made by Commander Aplin of H.M.S. *Centaur* on the 1st inst., to the insurgent authorities at Nanking, and of their reply, together with a copy of the pass to be used by British vessels passing Nanking. It will be observed from this correspondence that the free navigation of the river by British vessels is not to be interfered with by the insurgents, but that all intercourse held with any place in their possession, will be conducted under such conditions as the insurgent authorities, with the approval of the senior naval officer, shall think proper to prescribe; and the undersigned is further desired to call attention to that regulation of the insurgent authorities, which is concurred in by the Commander-in-Chief, requiring merchant vessels not to approach nearer to Nanking at night than the Pingshan Pagoda, nor to enter at any time the Tsaouhea Creek.

The positions at present selected for consular establishments on the river above Chingkiang are the cities of Hankow and Kiu-kiang, and his Excellency, the Naval Commander-in-Chief has stationed vessels of war at these ports, as well as at Chinkiang and Nankin, for the protecting British interests, and giving due support to Her Majesty's Consuls in the performance of their duties.

HARRY S. PARKES.

Yang-tsze River, March 9th, 1861.

PROVISIONAL REGULATIONS FOR BRITISH TRADE IN THE YANG-TSZE RIVER.

ART. I. Every British vessel wishing to proceed up the Yang-tsze River beyond Chinkiang, must apply to the British Consul at Shanghai for a pass, to be called the "river pass," authorising the vessel to trade as high as Hankow, which will be issued by the Shanghai Customs, and only by the Customs at that port, on the application of the Consul, as soon as the Customs are satisfied that all the dues and duties due upon the vessel and her cargo have been paid. The Consul will deliver the river pass to the vessel, and will retain in his hands her register or sailing letter, and on the return of the vessel to Shanghai the river pass must be surrendered to the Consul, and returned to the Customs.

ART. II. Every vessel proceeding up or down the river shall be permitted to carry for her protection such an amount of arms and ammunition as shall appear to the Customs at Shanghai to be reasonable, and this amount of arms and ammunition shall be entered in a certificate to be called the "Arms Certificate," which shall be delivered by the Customs, through the Consul, to any vessel applying for the same; and the said vessel shall be bound to bring back to Shanghai all the arms and ammunitions she is thus authorised to carry, or, if she have expended any portion of them during her voyage up or down the river, then to account for the manner in which such portion has been expended. Any vessel returning to Shanghai without any portion of the arms or ammunition stated in her Arms Certificate, and being unable to account satisfactorily for such missing portion, or being discovered trafficking in arms, munitions, or implements of war, at any port or place in the river, or carrying any arms or munitions in excess of the amount stated in her Arms Certificate, is liable to have her river pass withdrawn, and to be prohibited from trading upon the river.

ART. III. The Shanghai Customs may, if they see fit, appoint one or two of their officers to accompany the vessel as far as Chin-kiang, and the master of the vessel is bound to receive these officers on board, and to provide them suitable acommodation, but not their food or expenses. Trading of any kind between Shanghai and Chin-kiang, being an infraction of the XLVII. Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, may be punished as is therein provided.

ART. IV. No vessel is allowed to pass Chin-kiang without anchoring, and being reported to the British Consul and the Customs at that port. The master, on arriving at Chin-kiang, must deliver to the Consul his river pass, arms certificate, Shanghai port clearance, and a list of all passengers and persons not forming part of the registered crew on board, and if he wish to proceed up the river immediately, the Consul will forward all the papers above-named to the Customs, who may board and inspect the vessel, and if the Customs have no claim upon the vessel, or there be no cause for her detention, they will at once grant a new port clearance, and give this, together with the river pass and arms certificate to the master, who will then be at liberty to continue his voyage. But if the stay of a vessel at Chin-kiang exceed twenty-four hours, she must be reported within that time to the British Consul, and by the Consul to the Customs, in the manner provided in the XXXVII. Article of the Treaty of Tien tsin, and a manifest of her cargo and a copy of her passenger list furnished to the Consul; and if she land any portion of her cargo, or take on board any cargo, she must do so in the manner provided in the said Treaty; and the Consul will retain in his possession her river pass and arms certificate, until she receives her port clearance from the Custom-house, and is again ready to depart. Any British vessel proceeding up the river above Chin-kiang without a river pass, arms certificate, and Chin-kiang port clearance, duly obtained as provided in these regulations, commits infringement of the XLVII. Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, and is liable to the penalty therein provided.

ART. V. Every vessel must be reported to the British Consul at Kiu-kiang and Hankow, within twenty-four hours after her arrival at either of those ports, and the master must lodge in the hands of the Consul the vessel's river pass, arms certificate, and Chin-kiang port clearance, and must deliver to the Consul a manifest of her inward cargo, and a list of all passengers and persons not forming part of the registered crew on board; and the Consul will retain in his possession the river pass, arms certificate, and Chin-kiang port clearance, until the vessel is again ready to depart, and until he has received the manifest of her cargo outwards, and a list of all passengers and persons not forming part of her registered crew, and intending to leave the port in the said vessel; and before returning the said papers to the master, the Consul will endorse on the Chin-kiang port clearance, the respective dates on which it was lodged in his hands, and returned to the master. No report, however, need be made in the case of a vessel passing Kiu-kiang without anchoring, nor is it requisite that a vessel passing that port without discharging or taking in cargo, should deliver a manifest to the Consul.

ART. VI. Every vessel coming down the river must anchor at Chin-kiang, and be reported to the Consul, and cleared by the Customs, in the manner provided in the Fourth Article of these Regulations; and the Customs may, if they see fit, appoint one or two of their officers to accompany the vessel to the port of Shanghai, where the vessel is bound to proceed without touching at any other port or place, and these Customs officers must be received on board, and treated in the manner provided in the Second Article of these Regulations.

ART. VII. The payment of all import and export duties due by all British vessels, duly authorised to trade on the river above Chin-kiang, being secured to the Chinese Government by Articles I., IV., and VI. of these Regulations, Articles XXXVIII., XXXIX., XL., and XLI., of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, will not apply to such vessels, after they have passed Chin-kiang inwards, and any vessel so authorised may therefore discharge or load legal merchandise, at ports or places on the river above Chin-kiang, without being required to obtain Custom-house permits, or to pay export duties until the vessel returns to Chin-kiang.

ART. VIII.—The manifests of cargo that are to be delivered to Her Majesty's Consuls at the various ports, as provided in these regulations, must be made out in the form of a summary, stating the quantity of each description of goods on board, either in dimensions, weight, or value as the case may be.

ART IX.—The breach of any of these Regulations may be punished by the withdrawal from a vessel of her river pass, and by prohibiting her from further trading on the river, and if this penalty be awarded when on the river, she may be sent or taken to Shanghai, and also, and in addition to the preceding penalty, by any other pains or penalties that may be incurred by the same offence for a breach of treaty. And it shall be competent for any of Her Majesty's Consuls, to detain any vessel trading on the river under these Regulations, against which any other complaint or claim may at any time be laid, until the same shall have been heard and determined by the Consul, and his judgment carried into execution.

ART. X.—These Regulations may at any time be suspended or annulled, added to or amended, as, and in whatever way, may be judged expedient by H B. Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary in China, and the high Chinese authorities in communication together. HARRY S. PARKES.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE REBELS.

I am directed by the Commander-in-chief of the Naval Forces of Her Majesty the Queen of England, in China, to acquaint you:—

That by the recent arrangements at Peking, the right has been conceded to British ships, of navigating the River Yang-tsze for the purpose of trade immediately, and that he has stationed me with the *Centaur* at Nanking, in order that they may exercise that right, with entire freedom to themselves, and without molestation to others.

That in order to effect this object, every British vessel passing Nanking will communicate with, and receive a pass from me; a copy of which will be sent, for your information, to whomsoever you may think proper to name for the purpose, and the Commander-in-Chief expects you will order all persons acting under your authority, to be instructed duly to respect my passes, and not to interfere with the vessels carrying them.

That in the passes the vessel will be fully described, the master will be directed invariably to carry his flag, and not to use his guns, or other arms, except in self-defence; and will be duly informed of the regulations under which he may go ashore, or conduct trade at the several places in your possession.

That the Commander-in Chief has seen the letter written by Mung, Prince of Tsan, and Lin, Prince of Chang; and that the request contained therein—that all persons wishing to enter the city from British ships shall receive directions to give notice of the same to the Superintendent of Customs, and that no person shall visit your armed encampment—shall be duly attended to.

That the Commander-in Chief further expects, that if your forces attack and take either of the following places, namely—Chin-kiang, Kiu-kiang, Hankow, or any others in the river at which British subjects may be settled or trading, all such British subjects will be unmolested both in their persons and property; that on the other hand the commanders of the vessels of war stationed there, will receive directions in no way whatever to interfere in the hostilities which may be going on, except for the purpose of protecting their countrymen, should it be necessary to do so.

That if British subjects commit any offence on shore, they are not to be punished by the Taeping authorities, but are to be made prisoners, and sent on board the *Centaur*, with a full statement of the offence they have committed, which shall be duly dealt with according to British law. Should a Chinese of the Taepings commit an offence on board any British ship, he will in the same manner be sent to the authorities on shore for punishment.

I am directed distinctly to acquaint you, that I am in no degree responsible for the conduct of any other vessels, except those which are British and that, as far as I am concerned, you can deal with all others in any way you may think proper.

REPLY OF TAEPING AUTHORITIES.

"They agree unreservedly to all the conditions of the above communication. In the event of their attacking Chin-kiang, Kiu-kiang, or Hankow, they will give previous notice to the British authorities if possible. British vessels coming to Nanking, should not approach nearer than the Ping-shan Pagoda at night; and the Tsaouhea Creek can only be used by vessels of war.

FORM OF PASS.

Pass granted to Mr. (A.B.), master of the British (steamer or vessel C.D. barque), rigged, (340) tons burthen, (2) guns, No. of her crew (21)

1. Your vessel is permitted to navigate the river for the purposes of trade and on presenting this pass to any of the Taeping authorities you will not be interfered with by them.

2. You are permitted to hold intercourse with the shore, or to trade only under such regulations as their authorities shall think proper to prescribe, subject to my approval, and wherever a British vessel of war is stationed

you are not to communicate with the shore except with the sanction of her commander.

3. You are to be careful that your English Red Ensign is hoisted always.

4. You are not to use your guns or arms except in self-defence, for which I shall hold you personally responsible, and you are not to visit any armed encampment of the Taepings.

5. You are to be careful that when the shore is visited, either by yourself, your officers, or crew, such conduct is observed as will avoid giving offence to the inhabitants.

JAPAN.

There is no fresh news of interest from Japan, the latest date being the 4th March, which conveys the intelligence which appeared in our last issue. The China papers, however, contain the full report of a meeting, which ought to have reached us by the last mail—of British residents at Yokuhama on the 19th February, convened by Capt. F Howard Vyse, "for the purpose of taking into consideration a report, and the proceedings of a preliminary meeting, on the subject of existing grievances and obstructions at this port."

CHINA.

PEKING.

The *China Mail* affirms "on good authority" that the Government of Peking is in a state of confusion, and that Mr. Wade writes that the dynasty will be utterly destroyed, or in the expressive language of the *China Mail*, "go to smash," if the Emperor delays his return much longer. An important Imperial edict has been published, establishing a Board for Foreign Affairs. This significant document seems to show that the Chinese Government considers it not only necessary but wise to fulfil in good faith the obligations to which she is pledged. We transcribe the following portion of the edict, which was first published in the *Peking Gazette* of March 20th:—

"Let a Board of Superintendence of Commercial Intercourse with all nations be established at Peking, and let the Prince of Kun, Yi-sin, the High Chancellor Kwei-liang, and Wen-hsiang, Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, be appointed to the control thereof. Let the Board of Rites at the same time issue a seal of office, bearing the title of 'Imperially appointed superintendency of commercial intercourse with foreign nations.' For the under-secretaryships which it is necessary to establish, let Manchou and Chinese officials, to the number of eight, be selected from among the secretaries of the inner council, the boards, and the council of State. These officers will not be required to do duty at the same time at the council of State. They will take their turn of duty consecutively.

"The Titular Vice-President, Tsung-hou, is to reside at Tien-tsin, as superintendent of the three (northern) ports, having all commercial relations at Niu-chwang, Tien-tsin, and Teng-chou, beneath his supervision; and he will co-operate with the respective Manchou generals, viceroys, governors, and prefects, in the discharge of his duties. He will receive a seal with his title as 'Superintendent of Trade for the Three Ports'—but it will not be necessary to add the designation of 'Imperial Commissioner.'

"The duties of superintendent of trade at Canton, Foo-chow, Amoy, Ningpo, and Shanghai, together with the three ports on the Inner River; and Chao-chou, Chiung-chou, and Tam-sui in Formosa, are to be discharged by the Acting Imperial Commissioner, Hieh-hwan, Governor of Kiang-su.

"Of the newly opened ports, Niu-chwang alone is to be beneath the control of the Superintendent of Manchurian Customs. For the conduct of business at Tang-chou and the other ports, let officers be appointed by the respective Viceroys and Governors, in concert with Tsung-hou and Hsieh-hwan.

"Reports to the Throne must be made from time to time, regarding the official communications from (the representatives of) the different nations, together with all matters affecting commercial intercourse; while the original despatches themselves must, at the same time, be forwarded for perusal, communication being simultaneously made to the Board of Rites for transmission to the superintendency of foreign commercial intercourse."

TIEN-TSIN.

Dates from Tien-tsin are to the 15th of March, the Peiho being clear of ice, gunboats and other vessels are again passing to and fro. The British Minister was to start for Peking on the 20th, and the Emperor to leave Jehol for the capital on the 23rd. The journey would occupy five days.

Our troops, as usual, have found means of driving out *ennui*, and what with feats on the ice and theatricals, they appear to have had a good time of it. They have fitted up a theatre in the building, inside the East Gate, called the "Grotto Yamun." It is said to be a perfect gem; the scenery was painted by Captain F——, whose artistical talent is renowned. The opening address was written and delivered by an officer of the Commissariat Staff. The pieces produced were "The Wandering Minstrel," "Taming a Tiger," and "Whitebait at Greenwich."

Part of the French force is about to leave, namely—one battalion of the 102nd Regiment for Cochin China, and a battery of artillery for France.

The following notification has been issued:—

1. The Custom-house for foreign shipping will be opened forthwith at the northern extremity of the ground set apart for the British settlement, and all inspections of goods subject to duty will be made there daily by the Chinese [illegible].

2. British merchant vessels arriving at Tientsin must [illegible] part of the river between the new Custom-house on the north and the two large forts connected with Sangkolinsin's wall on the south.

3. An office of general inspection is about to be established at Taku, and any British merchant vessel entering the river, will be boarded there by a Custom-house officer who will remain on board till she reaches the anchorage for foreign shipping at Tien tsin.

4.—The time allowed in Art. 37 of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, for lodging the ship's papers, &c., in the hands of the Consul at Tien-tsin is extended to seventy-two hours in the case of a merchant vessel whose draught of water is such as to necessitate her anchoring outside the bar of the Peiho; and if this rule be not complied with within ninety-six hours, the penalties which are laid down in the above-named article of the Treaty aforesaid will be enforced.

In like manner the time allowed for correcting a manifest is extended to forty-eight hours; and the corrected document may be handed in to the Customs officers either at Tien-tsin or Taku.

5.—When portions of the cargo of a British merchant vessel have already paid duty at any of the other open ports of China, the exemption certificates should be handed in to the Consul, along with the ship's papers, manifests, &c., that the same may be reported at once to the Superintendent of Customs, so as to obviate delay in landing the goods.

6. When the Superintendent of Customs at Tien-tsin shall have granted a permit to open hatches to any British merchant-vessel anchored off the bar, this permit must be presented in the first instance at the Taku Office, and Chinese officers will then be despatched to see the hatches opened, and take note of the nature and amount of the cargo transhipped into the cargo-boats. As each of these boats is laden her hold will be sealed, and a permit granted her to proceed to Tien-tsin. This permit will contain a statement of the cargo conveyed, and the name of the ship from which it is taken, and on the arrival of the boat at Tien-tsin it must be handed in at the Custom-house, when the cargo will be inspected, and if everything be found correct, the goods may then be landed and the duties paid into the Government bank.

(Signed) J. MONGAN, Acting Consul.

A letter dated 14th March says:—The ice at Taku commenced to show indications of breaking up on the 2nd instant, it then being unsafe to cross on it between the forts. On the 8th it was partially broken up at various parts of the river, and at noon on the 12th it suddenly began to crack, and move away in front of the town of Tien-tsin, and the river is now quite clear up to that point, though masses of ice are still floating past the town from portions of the river higher up, not yet navigable. This day at noon, the first gun-boat of the season arrived from Taku, the *Drake*, No. 78, and will take down the present mail to Maitau, from whence it will be sent on to Shanghai.

The French received this forenoon their mails of the 12th January, but the English portion of the mail is not yet forthcoming. Throughout the winter the postal arrangements of our allies have been much superior to ours, as they have had their mails regularly from Chefoo, while it was only on the 3rd of the present month that the English army received any since the 19th December last, on which day the European mail of 10th October arrived. The English mail of 10th December was delivered in Tien-tsin, *via* Chefoo, on the 3rd; and on the 6th inst., the mails of 26th October, 10th and 26th November came up from Chefoo, and yesterday was received the one of 26th December; so at last, with the exception of the 10th January from London, the army have received all their missing mails.

Quite a feat has been accomplished by one of the officers stationed at Tien-tsin, who skated from Taku to Tien-tsin, an estimated distance of sixty-eight miles. He started at 8 A.M., and arrived at 5 P.M., and is probably the only instance on record of the journey having been performed in that style.

SHANGHAI.

The opening of the Yang-tze-Keang and the movements of the expedition, engross public attention to the exclusion of almost all other matters. Full details will be found in another column. The port of Neu-chwang, which has hitherto attracted but little attention, is open to trade, and signs of improvement are manifest here in the demand for goods for shipment to the Northern ports. Trade in the old channels is still interrupted, in consequence of the proximity of large bodies of insurgents, who had advanced to and burned the town of Cheen-joo, within easy distance of Shanghai; and it appears doubtful whether an active business can be carried on by the natives, and whether the whole of the trade with the interior will not be transferred to foreigners, or at any rate pass up the river in craft bearing

treaty flags. The Imperial government appears to become daily more impotent; and, although there are few, if any, traits in the rebels worthy of admiration, the Government that cannot suppress them is equally to be despised.

The rebels have been burning villages and detached farm-houses in the neighbourhood of Shanghai, and appear anxious, according to the *North China Herald*, "to surround the town with a belt of desolated country." The *Herald* adds: "It may come to pass that the principle of non-intervention will prove an error, and be abandoned by our authorities to the discomfort of the rebels, when it is found that the ports are virtually cut off from the interior by a desert, created through their marauding propensities. Their deference to our power and their ostensible friendliness to foreigners generally, will be of very little advantage to our commerce if the Chinese traders cannot pass freely to and fro. Indeed, but for the opening of [illegible] hoped, We should [illegible] mere city of refuge, our only employment being the housing of Chinese, exiled from their own towns and homes."

From the same paper we extract the following summary of news:—"A disturbance has taken place outside the East Gate of the city, which was eventually quelled by the French stationed there. The troops of a certain General named 'Ma' having arrived at Shanghai during the night, desired to get admission into the city; this being denied to them, they proceeded to take forcible possession of the dwellings near the East Gate for quarters, greatly to the consternation of the occupants, who imagined that nothing short of the rebels having arrived, could have given rise to such disturbance. As the native officers could not restore order, the French troops were called out and arrested some 50 of them. A high officer named Pang, (a retired Minister of the Privy Council), and specially deputed from Peking as commander of the Shanghai militia) afterwards proceeded to the spot to investigate the cause of the uproar, and finding that the officer in charge could not control his troops, ordered him at once to be executed, which was then and there carried into effect. As the inhabitants were still apprehensive of further attacks from this soldiery, and kept their shops closed, the Shanghai magistrate, to set their mind at rest, issued a proclamation stating that these troops would only remain there a few days and then be marched off to Tsing-poo.

The Imperialist troops suffered a severe defeat some three or four days ago at Ka-ting. They had been pursuing some rebels from Nan-siang to Ka-ting, and at first succeeded in entering the place, but were as speedily driven out again with a loss of altogether some 100 soldiers. On a valiant Colonel Ma-ting-kwei, who has been winning to himself considerable reputation lately, coming to their relief, the rebels fell back at the sight of his standard. The Imperialists have since occupied a strong position at Nang-siang and Hang-chiao, between this and Ka-ing, to intercept their further approach upon Shanghai.

Two thousand more Imperial troops have recently arrived at Woosung, from the country north of the Yang-tze. Great things are expected of these troops, as they have been fighting in Gan Hwui, and been everywhere victorious. The little steamer purchased by the "literati" and traders of the retreat, in the Ta-hu Lake, Tung-ting-shan, is said to have been captured by the rebels, and the place itself taken some ten days ago.

Communications with Hang-chow, Shao-hing, and Ningpo, by way of Hu-chow, has been reopened, the rebels having departed from thence.

About 100 French troops and the *Meteor* steamer are stationed at Woosung to prevent the rebels interfering in that quarter, which we believe has been threatened; but the people there do not seem to evince any alarm, and business is going on just as usual.

According to accounts from the districts near Soo-chow, business was being carried on without interruption, and duties being levied at the barriers of San-li-ch'ao and Chi-li-chiao, near Woo-keang and Loo-c'heu, by the rebels, and on goods conveyed by native boats from this place; a fixed rate of duty was being levied on the invoice being presented showing their value.

A plot of ground has been ceded to the French in the city here, on the site of a Roman Catholic church, which existed there under a past dynasty, and on which a Chinese temple, the "Kuan-li-Miao," was erected some sixty years ago; this building is also now in their possession. A claim was made for this ground some fifteen years ago, and resulted in a promise, which was never fulfilled, that the French should have it after ten years from that date. School-rooms for Chinese children have now been opened there under the supervision of the missionaries.

Mr. E. A. Reynolds has designed and built a vessel called the *Lan-hwa*, which deserves notice as being the first steamer built in Shanghai, and the first vessel clearing for any port on the Yang-tsze-kiang under the new regulations for foreign trade on that river. She cleared on the 19th of March for Chin-kiang, and will probably proceed to Hankow.

The Prince of Kung has sent Mr. Lay authority to act as Inspector-General of Customs.

SWATOW.

The body of James Malley, the Second Engineer of the [illegible], has been brought in by some fishermen. There were marks of two frightful blows upon the face, which had undoubtedly been received before life was extinct. One very severe blow was between the eyes, the other on the lips. From all the ascertained circumstances of the case, there is only too great reason to fear that he was murdered in a sampan while on his way to the gunboat, which lay about 300 yards from the shore. It would then seem as if he had been taken outside and thrown overboard. The body when found was stripped of the coat, and plundered of a ring and about $25 which the unfortunate man is known to have had with him.

Among recent arrivals has been that of Mr. Breck, U. S. Consul, who with Mrs Breck was to leave for Ningpo.

HONG KONG.

According to a return published in the *Hong Kong Register*, the number of troops in China were as follows:—At Tien-tsin 3,080, at Taku Forts 75; Shanghai 1,740; Hong Kong 1,989; Kowloon 925; Stanley 69; Canton 2,640. Total 10,518. The 60th Royal Rifles are about to embark for England.

From the *Daily Press* we extract a notice of the new territory of Kowloong:—

Mr. Commissioner May has made rapid progress in developing the resources of the place, and considering the primitive means at his command, we were not a little surprised at the result. He has nothing but convict labour to rely on, and his prison is a confiscated cargo boat, which likewise serves for the police station. An excellent road has been constructed to the civil encampment, which is beautifully situated on the summit of a hill, and consists of a number of tents enclosed on a levelled spot by a bamboo fence. The road then strikes in an easterly direction, and when completed will communicate with all the villages on the cession.

The statistics of the Civil Commissioner, combined with a report of the cases adjudicated by him, would be valuable returns in more respects than one. In the first place, they would illustrate the sad state of anarchy at present ruling in China; and in the next place, they would form an authentic unimpeachable record of what Cowloon was when the English took it. Should the place ever attain the importance we expect it will, such a record will be cherished by future generations.

The extent of the cession is much larger than we had the most remote idea of. Cutting off the corners, we should say it must be more than ten miles round. The difference between the atmosphere on the Cowloon side and on this is something considerable. For instance, on Sunday last, whilst there was scarcely any wind here, there was a strong sea breeze blowing on the Cowloon side through the Ly-ee-moon. The difference surprised us.

Regarding the encroachments of the military authorities we were perfectly astounded. Some distance north of the parade ground, and just at the point, where if there ever should be a town there it should certainly form the centre, a line of long sheds is being constructed. We should think their dimensions are each 120 feet by 45. They are double roofed with large eaves, are high off the ground, and extremely well adapted for summer quarters. There are about ten of them, and they reach nearly across the peninsula. If the 60th Rifles are really going home, which we believe there is no doubt about, what can these huts be for? The cost is $1,300 each, but they will stand no chance against a typhoon. With the huts already erected, the parade-ground, and these sheds just described, all absorbed by the military, which is clearly what is aimed at, the cession will be a burden to the colony, for the remainder will be hardly worth having."

Sir Hercules Robinson's Government is said to be approved of by people of every class.

Frequent desertions have occurred in the army and navy, upwards of forty having taken place within a very short time.

A large concourse met in the Happy Valley, on the 30th of March, to witness the exploits of the contending athletes for prizes offered by the Race Committee. Foot races, hopping, and hurdle races, wrestling, &c., formed the programme of the day's amusements. The band of H. M.'s 44th Regiment, as well as that of the 21st Madras Native Infantry, were on the ground, and enlivened the scene with excellent music.

The *Hong Kong Register* says, "We perceive, with the highest satisfaction, that his Excellency has proposed, and his council assented to, a plan for procuring efficient Chinese scholars to fill the vacant offices connected with interpretership in our criminal and civil courts, by importing well educated youths from home, and having them instructed here under competent masters, at the expense of the Colony."

We have much pleasure in noticing that the resident merchants of Yokuhama have subscribed the sum of $1,000 for the payment of the fine imposed on Mr. Moss by Mr. Alcock, her Majesty's minister at Yedo, and in amemorial to him they record their opinion that he acquitted himself throughout the trial in a most truthful and praiseworthy manner, and that had the Japanese not been under *duresse*, the evidence would have been totally different, and quite confirmatory of his own statements. A suit has been instituted in the Supreme Court of Hong Kong against Mr. Alcock for damages, which will shortly be brought to trial.

The American steamer *Fire Dart* arrived from New York on the 20th March, having left the latter place on 10th of December.

CANTON.

The *Friend of China* writes somewhat severely of the Bishop of Victoria, whom it accuses of "gross neglect in not providing some means for the performance of Divine service at Whampoa. His Lordship knows," says the editor, "that two-thirds of the master mariners visiting the anchorage are Englishmen, who prefer the Church of England's to any other form of worship; and yet, notwithstanding the presence of the conventicle of which we speak, no Church of England minister is able to officiate, simply because there is no licensed quarter in which he may publicly appear."

From a number of items of news in the same paper we extract the following:—

"The distress occasioned in Cochin China, by the now long continued war with France, will have made many of the poorer of the population quite ready to go to any quarter where food can be obtained; and dollars being given in advance, as in China, Coolie labour will be as abundant as we hear it is among the smaller islands under the Government of the Philippines, a quarter which importers of Coolie labour at Havana intend to try next year we are told; the restrictions applying to Chinese have no application to born subjects of Her Most Catholic Majesty."

Such another place as China for feasts and festivals there cannot be in the world. The other evening, when all work was done, a procession passed through the streets of Honan, the end of which could not be seen after an hour had gone by. On inquiry we were told that it was termed the festival of *sieu foe*, "burning old clothes." Some of the effigies, especially of fishes of transparent paper, with candles inside, were particularly good; while the living figures of pretty girls just reaching their teens, nicely dressed, be-whitened and be-rouged (showing that Chinese have as much love as Westerns for fair complexions, rosy cheeks, and cherry lips) were charms on which a bachelor could dream for nights.

The number of the *Friend of China* for March 30, contains an interesting and curious article on Coolie emigration, entitled "The Other Side; or, the Coolie Question in its True Bearings."

The following is the form of passport given to approved applicants at British Consulates—Fee one dollar:—

Passport No. British Consulate,
1861.

The undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at , requests the civil and military authorities of the Emperor of China, in conformity of the Ninth Article of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, to allow a British subject to travel freely and without hindrance or molestation in the Chinese empire, and to give him protection and aid in case of necessity.

Mr. ——, being a person of known respectability, is desirous of proceeding to (cities and towns in the Kwang-tung province) passport is given him, on condition of his not visiting the cities or towns occupied by the insurgents. H. B. M.'s Consul.

This passport will remain in force for a year from the date thereof.

Signature of the bearer:

The Allied Commissioners have issued a proclamation that in consequence of the setting in of the South-West monsoon, and the approach of a season unfavourable to navigation, emigration depots will close on the 30th of April (they are closed already), and not re-open till the 15th of September next.

In the *Daily Press* we observe the report—for the truth of which that paper does not vouch—that the Governor-General of Hoonan and Hoopeh has addressed a despatch to the Emperor, suggesting that the Imperial Court be removed to Shensi. "The reason given is that foreigners are invincible upon or near the water, and that Peking is open to their attacks; therefore, if the Court remain at that city, it can be brought under their influence by intimidation. Shensi is recommended because it is surrounded by hills, through which foreigners would have great difficulty in penetrating. The reply from the Emperor was that the suggestion should be adopted, and the Court removed during the course of the year."

PHILIPPINES.

MANILA.

On the 9th of December, 1857, a Royal order was published for the establishment of a Mint for reducing to small coins the South American doubloons which at present constitute the large proportion of the currency. It was not till the 19th of March that this came into partial operation, and several months must yet elapse before any issue of the smaller coins can be made that will serve as a substitute for the large silver dollars.

Great activity is being manifested in the construction of roads and bridges, and material improvements are being rapidly introduced in the provinces, especially in the manufacture in sugars, the old system being abandoned by many of the growers, and boilers and machinery adopted for crushing, &c. In this respect a great loss is felt in the death of Mr. Stoll, a mechanical engineer of great ability, who kept their machinery in repair, and had just entered into contracts for making and setting up machines.

Cholera and small-pox have been very prevalent, but are now gradually disappearing.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

Dates have been received to March 30. Another expedition of the French was preparing for an attack on Mitho. Several vessels were waiting for rice, and the price had risen to nearly $2 per picul.

BORNEO.

SARAWAK.

The little steamer *Rainbow*, belonging to the Sarawak Government, had again returned to Singapore, with dates from Sarawak to March 26, and she bids fair to supply efficiently the greatest want which Sarawak had, viz., want of communication. The improvement of the settlement may date from the time of her arrival.

Muka is represented to be as strongly fortified as Scriff Massahore could make it, and it was anticipated he would make an attack on Kanowit. Captain Brooke had placed reinforcements in the fort. Sir James Brooke was about to visit Brunó in the *Rainbow*.

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

Further details are given of the effects of the inundations. The *Herndelsblad* remarks: "Truly there is no country in the world where past misfortunes are so soon forgotton as in Java. The inhabitants of the inundated districts have again returned to their dwellings, or are busy building new houses on the old sites. The fields which were destroyed have been mostly replanted, and the 'pestiferous mud' of a month previous is now become 'the fruitful layer of slime' which promises a rich harvest and compensation for past losses. Of those who found their death in the water or under landslips little is thought." There is no fear of any prolonged want. The necessaries of life are very little dearer than usual at this time of the year, and the state of the rice crops is really everywhere very promising.

The damage done on the West coast of Sumatra by the earth-

quake, and especially by the rising of the sea, was very great. The sea came so suddenly on the garrison that they fled half-clothed to the Campong Hilibobo. Twelve of the soldiers and thirty-two natives were drowned. The rest of the garrison afterwards proceeded to Gunong Sitoli, where they arrived in a sick and wretched condition.

Complaints are made regarding the large export of silver money from Java to Singapore, and the Government is called upon to take measures to prevent this. In 1858 2½ millions, and in 1859, four millions of florins were thus exported, and it is stated that by the last mail that 800,000f. were taken from Batavia. The export of this money causes a loss to the State of from four to five per cent.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The *Singapore Free Press* announces the arrival of the Sultan of Tringaun, who was received by the Governor and resident councillor. The Sultan is on his way to Mecca.

A petition will be presented in a few days to his Honour the Governor, showing the great injury the petitioners suffer from foreigners being allowed to sail in vessels from this port under the British flag, the privilege of taking the command of a ship sailing under other national colours being denied them in other ports.

The tiger now exhibited in Campong Glam measures fourteen feet from the tip of its nose to the end of its tail, and is thirty-three inches in height, at the withers.

The *Standard* announces:—"The old-remembered tenants of Gemmill's-buildings are gradually leaving; a gentleman who has for years established a store, is selling off; the hotel portion of the block will pass into other hands; the old shipping office, latterly used for general transactions, will be occupied by another tenant.

The second number of the *Singapore Review* has fully realised the expectations which were entertained from the author's varied and general knowledge; and if the first number was not graciously received, at least in Singapore, it carried with it much local information which could not fail to interest strangers.

The ice ship has arrived, and is expected to realise a fair price.

The Government are constructing lines of road from Serangoon to Pongul, a distance of about two and a-half miles; from Pongul to Eo Chu Kang, two and a-half miles; from Tangling to Passer Panjang, three miles, from whence a road will lead to Ayer Rajah, three miles; from Panjang, in a due westerly direction, to a place not yet named, four miles.

His Imperial Majesty's steam frigate *Gironde*, Mons. Thayan, arrived at Singapore on the evening of the 27th of March, having left Bankok Siam on the 23rd, with their Excellencies the Siamese Ambassadors, who landed under the usual salute from Fort Fullerton. Their Excellencies embarked on board the *Gironde* on the 3rd of April, *en route* to France *via* Suez.

The captain and crew of the schooner *Willy* (Brem.) arrived here on the 11th of March, reporting the total loss of that vessel.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.

BIRTHS.

ALISON.—On the 6th inst., at 4, Albyn-place, Edinbargh, the wife of Lieut.-Colonel Alison, C.B., of a daughter.

BOWMAN.—On the 5th inst., at Stangrove, Eden bridge, Kent, the wife of A. Bowman, Esq., of a daughter.

BESLEY.—On the 24th ult., at 4, Brunswick-terrace, Brighton, the wife of Frederick Besley, Esq., of Oak Lodge, Highgate, of a son.

CLARK.—On the 3rd inst., at Instow, North Devon, the wife of Thomas Clark, Esq., of Point de Galle, Ceylon, of a son.

D'ALMEIDA.—On the 24th March, at Mount Echo, Singapore, the wife of Joaquim D'Almeida, Esq., of a son.

GREENFIELD.—On the 30th ult., at 1, Abbot's-road, Kilburn Priory, the wife of Hume Greenfield, of a son.

GORDON.—On the 4th inst., at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, the wife of H. W. Gordon, Esq., C.B., of a son.

JOAQUIM.—On the 2nd March, at Mount Narseis, Singapore, Mrs. Joaquim, of a daughter

LACY.—On the 24th ult., at 3, Kew-terrace, Great Western-road, Glasgow Mrs. Henry B. Lacy, of a daughter.

LATHAM.—On the 5th inst., at 17, Kent-terrace, Regent's-park, the wife of Edward Latham, Esq., of a daughter.

MORRICE.—On the 6th inst., at the Vicarage, Longbridge Deverill, Wilts, the wife of the Rev. W. D. Morrice, of a daughter.

PAGE.—On the 2nd March, at Shanghai, China, Mrs F. M. Page, of a daughter.

PEIRCE.—On the 22nd March, at Cochin, Malabar Coast, the wife of R. H. Peirce, Esq., of a son, which only survived his birth twenty-four hours.

RIBEIRO.—On the 23rd March, at Macao, the wife of Mr. L. V. Ribeiro, of a son.

SKOTTOWE.—On the 25th ult., at the Priory, Douglas, Isle of Man, the wife of N. J. Skottowe, Esq., Commander of the P. and O. Co.'s ship *Columbian*, of a son.

TATE.—On the 9th March, at Shanghai, Mrs. J. Priestley Tate, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BRACE—OSBORN.—On the 2nd inst., at the parish church, Farcham, Hants, by the Rev. Sir Henry Thomson, Bart., Francis Edward Brace, Esq., of Catisfield Lodge, Farcham, late Lieut. of 3rd Buffs, to Elizabeth, second daughter of Charles Osborn, Esq., of Down-end, Farcham.

BALLARD—MONCRIEFF.—On the 30th ult., at Dalkeith, N.B., by the Rev. W. Scott Moncrieff, Brevet Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Ballard, C.B., Bombay Engineers, to Joanna, daughter of Robert Scott Moncreiff, Esq., of Fossaway, Perthshire.

BIRDSEYE—BURROUGHS.—On the 14th March, at Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. J. Hobson, T. J. Birdseye, Esq of Shanghai, to Sarah Maria, daughter of the late Thomas Burroughs, Esq., of Derby.

DURNFORD—COURCY.—On the 1st inst., at St. Martin's Church, Guernsey, by the Rev. James Mainguy, M.A., Colonel George Durnford, to Henrietta, only child of M de Courcy, Esq., Havelet House, in that island.

LYALL—MACNEILL.—On the 24th ult., at Montrose, by the Rev. John Ferguson, Johanna, daughter of Captain Macneil, of Easter Brakie, Forfarshire, late of the 91st Regiment, to John Lyall, Esq., late of Calcutta.

SMITH—SPROULE.—On the 7th inst., at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Haverstock-hill, London, by the Rev. William Darby, Thomas Smith, of China, to Marian, eldest daughter of James Sproule, Esq., of Adelaide-road, Hampstead.

SANFORD—WOOLLETT.—On the 6th inst., at Bolbec, Seine Inférieure, by the Rev. Hill Wilson, Resident Protestant Minister at Havre (the ceremony having been previously performed by H.M.'s Consul at Havre), Heaumas Sanford, Esq., of Park-road, Stockwell, to Marran Elizabeth, only daughter of Joseph Woollett, Esq., of Bolbec.

DEATHS.

ALVES.—On the 15th March, at Macao, Joze Miguel Alves, Esq.

BASTOS.—On the 30th March, at Hong Kong, Jose Bastos, third son of the late A. J Bastos.

BRIARD.—On the 15th February, on board the American barque *C. E. Tilton* in the Gulf of Siam, of dysentery, Charles Tilton Briard, only son of J. H. and Louisa Briard aged three years, three months, and eighteen days.

BROWN.—On the 5th March, at Hong Kong, Colour-Sergeant Brown, 44th Regiment, aged 31 years.

CLARK.—On the 27th ult., Deputy-Inspector of Army Hospitals, John Clark, M.D., aged 54.

MARKWICK.—On the 8th March, at Hong Kong, of smallpox, Ricardo, and on the 30th March, Maria, son and daughter of Mr. Richard Markwick.

RAWSON.—On the 26th ult., aged 74, Mrs. Rawson, Green Royde, Halifax, Yorkshire.

STOLL.—On the 11th March, at Manila, Mr John Stoll aged 39 years.

WADMAN.—On the 4th inst., Henry A. Wadman, infant son of E. Wadman, late of Ningpo, China, aged 13 months and 8 days.

WILBER.—On the 14th March, at the Excelsior Hotel, Whampoa, aged 21 years, of paralysis, Charlotte Hays, the wife of E. E. Wilber, Esq., of the firm of E. E. Wilber and Co., Commission Agents.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA—IMPORTS.

SHANGHAI.—The opening of the ports up the Yang-tsze, and the prospects of trade at Tein-tsin, have at length tended to impart some life into the market, and although quotations have not decidedly advanced, still there is an improved demand and a much better feeling in the minds both of importers and dealers. A vessel called the *Maryland*, cleared for Tein-tsin with 150 bales and 300 cases Manchester goods, 200 bales Am. drills, 100 boxes glass, and 50 chests opium. Sales of grey shirtings T. cloths, chintzes, and Am. drills have been made to some extent for shipment to Hankow. T. cloths are a little higher. White shirtings, white and dyed spots, coloured brocades, chintzes (especially scarlet) camlets, lastings, and well assorted Sp. stripes are readily saleable and incline upwards. Lead is in limited demand. Iron dull, with a heavy stock. Tin lower and quiet. Tin plates saleable for Japan. Window glass, saleable with difficulty, stock excessive. Ratans, sapanwood and sandalwood are all saleable. Provisions, &c.: A demand springing up for the service of the French; good Gallego flour has been placed at $8 to $8.50, but the market is now dull again. Beef is in excessive supply, and good American can be had at $9 per barrel. Pork is not in such heavy stock, and is saleable at $13 to $15 per barrel for prime. In other articles under this heading there is no room for remark, the market being glutted. Coals: The supply continues large. The Hong Kong rates afloat for entire cargoes are $10 to $10.50 for English steam, $6 for Sydney. The Shanghai quotations rule much higher, say English 12 to 15 taels. Sydney, 10 to 10½ taels. Japan, 5 to 6 taels.

FOO-CHOW-FOO.—There has been a good demand for grey long cloths, T.-cloths, and lead. The following are the sales reported for the fortnight:—Cotton yarn, 75 bales, low numbers at $32 to $33; grey shirtings 2,000 pieces 9¼ lb. at $2.75; T.-cloths 5,500 pieces, 6 to 7 lb. at $1.50 to $2; brocades 300 pieces, white at $2.20; 300 piece died to $3.50; lead 1,000 piculs at $8.75 to $9.25.

CANTON.—Yarn in reduced stock and firmer; grey shirtings incline upward; iron, lead, and tin plates in good demand.

HONG KONG.—A fair amount of business has been done, but prices show no improvement. The *Star of the North*, *Strathallan*, and *Veloz* have arrived during the fortnight with moderate supplies. The following are the sales reported:—Yarn 300 bales; long cloths, grey 15,750 pieces; white 600 pieces; T.-cloths 418,500 pieces; Am. drills 4,000 pieces; long ells 500 pieces scarlet; Spanish stripes 250 pieces assorted; lastings 600 pieces; iron 4,000 to 5,000 piculs.

CHINA—EXPORTS.

TEA.—Shanghai: Black; supplies continue checked, and the small stock at market, whilst it offers a meagre selection, is held above the rates current at Canton and Foochow. The consequence is that an extremely limited business has been transacted during the fortnight, the settlements being reported at under 2,000 chests common Congous at 18 to 20 taels. The stock on the market is stated at 5,000 chests Congou (consisting of Ningchows, Hohows, Hoochows, and common repacked), and 2,000 chests Flowery Pekoes, three-fourths of which are new teas. Green—supplies have been much more free than were anticipated. Settlements during the fortnight are reported to the extent of 7,000 half-chests China, and 2,500 packages Japan leaf. As the business is nearly all transacted by contract quotations cannot be given. The stock on the market is stated at 14,000 half-chests China, and 4,000 half-chests Japan. Arrivals are reported at Ningpo to the extent of 15,000 packages, and the ship *Lord Clarendon* has proceeded there to fill up for New York. Owing to the increased supplies, and to the unfavourable political news from the United States, buyers are unwilling to go on at the excessive rates which have been established, and prices at Shanghai have receded fully 3 taels. The total settlements of greens for this season to date are 89,000 half-chests China, and 40,000 half-chests Japan, against 420,000 packages China, at corresponding period last season. At Foo-chow-Foo: The season's yield of Congou is clearly exhausted, supplies from the country being limited to driblets. The teamen continue firm in their demands, which circumstance, combined with the fact of the assortment at market being the refuse of the

season, fully accounts for the small business transacted. About 1,300 packages of Fychow Greens have come to hand, and a quantity more are expected. As the risk and expense of bringing these to such an unusual market are very great, the rates demanded are exorbitant. The stock on the market is reduced to 12,000 chests Congou, 1,000 chests flowery Pekoe, and 300 half-chests common Oolong. Canton: There has been a strong disposition evinced during the fortnight by foreigners to invest in Congous, at rates much above those ruling in London on the departure of the 26th January mail. This caused the teamen to become firmer than ever, and prices have tended upwards. The natural consequence is that very little business has been done. Of new country greens about 2,000 packages have come to hand, a quantity of Hyson having been taken for India, at extreme rates. Four chops of Congou have also arrived during the fortnight, which complete the season's supply. Settlements are reported of Congou: 8 chops Oonam and Oopack, common to middling at 18 to 26½ taels, and 650 chests Canton packed at 24 taels. Scented Teas: 3,300 boxes Orange Pekoe at 24 to 29 taels, and 1,000 boxes Caper at 15 to 15½ taels. Powchong: 120 half-chests and 1,400 boxes (for New York) at 17 to 19 taels.

RAW SILK.—Shanghai: The dealers show an evident desire to realise, but will not as yet submit to a decline corresponding with the London quotations. From the interior the arrivals have been moderate, and the proportion of good silk is still very small. The sales of the fortnight are estimated at about 1,200 bales. The quotations are—Tsatlees, best 3, 425 to 430 tls. per picul; taysaams 2, 330 to 345 per picul; yuenfa, best 380 to 390:—Canton.—Small settlements are reported for shipment to India to the extent of 50 piculs Loonkong. The remaining stock is very small, and there are not likely to be any more transactions worth reporting for Europe or the United States this season. The quotations are—Rereeled comchock $470 to $475 for the best; Kowkong $400 to to $410; Loonkong $430 to $440. The Macao market has been swept.

DRUGS, &c.—Cassia Lignea: At Canton there is none good at market, the nominal quotation is $18. At Macao 300 piculs came to hand, which were taken at $18 to $18 25c., leaving none upon the market. Cassia Oil is dull, with ample supplies. The Canton quotation is $280; Macao, $260 to $265. Cassia Buds: There is no stock either at Canton or Macao. At the latter the nominal quotation is $35 to $36. Star Anniseed: At Canton none; at Macao 100 piculs are on the market, $14 25c. to $14 50c. being asked. Anniseed Oil is in full supply, both at Canton and Macao, the quotation being $160 to $165. Fire Crackers: The Canton quotation is 90c. per 40 packets of best quality. Matting: At Canton Lintan cargo is quoted 10½c. per yard of four quarter white, and one cent more for red check. Vermillion at Canton is $39 per box of Sun-shing chop.

BATAVIA.—We have had a decided improvement in our market during the last fortnight, and large sales have been made of suitable goods; prices generally are lower than they should be, but still all kinds of manufactures adapted to the season find ready purchasers.

SINGAPORE.—Large arrivals of English goods have brought down rates, and the demand is slack. The stocks are heavy. In exports the purchases have been small, owing to a scarcity and high rates.

MANILA.—The supplies of European goods have been small, and there has been general inactivity in the import markets. The produce market continues very dull, the unfavourable advices from Europe and the United States, combined with scarcity of tonnage, making shippers unwilling to purchase unless at rates that producers are generally unwilling to accept.

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6	months sight.	6s. 3d. to 6s. 3½d.	6s. 4d. to 6s. 4½d
Ditto	3	ditto	...	...
At Foo-Chow-Foo (per dol.)	6	ditto	...	...
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4 7	4 7½
Ditto	3	ditto	..	..
At Singapore	6	ditto	4 6¾	4 7¼
Ditto	3	ditto	..	..
At Manila	6	ditto	4 2	4 2
Ditto	3	ditto	..	..
At Batavia (guilders.)	6	ditto	..	11-65

The exchange on India at Shanghai was at 296 to 299 rupees per 100 taels, and at Hong Kong 216 to 218 per $100. Bar silver at Shanghai 17 to 17½ dwts. B.; 11 to 11½ taels, and at Hong Kong 9½ per cent. The current quotation at Shanghai for Mexican dollars was 75.25c. to 75.50c. and the rate of exchange on Hong Kong was 25¼ per cent. discount.

EXPORTS OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN SEASON 1860-61.

	From Shanghai.	From Foo-chow.	From Canton, Macao, and Hong Kong.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From July 1, 1860, to Feb. 28, 1861	7,602,369	27,812,900	34,156,742	69,822,011	64,219
Comparative period last season	25,869,370	21,295,466	21,044,480	65,209,316	49,583
TO UNITED STATES.					
From July 1, 1860, to Feb. 28, 1861	...	...	...	23,008,836	Piculs. 1,753
Comparative period last season	...	...	...	28,985,113	1,558
TO THE CONTINENT.					
From July 1, 1860, to Feb. 28, 1861	...	...	...	1,361,600	Bales. 6,586
Comparative period last season	...	...	...	2,391,331	4,115
TO SAN FRANCISCO.					
From July 1, 1860, to Feb. 28, 1861	...	...	...	Packages. 21,150	...
Comparative period last season	...	...	...	21,018	...
TO AUSTRALIA.					
From July 1, 1860, to Feb. 28, 1861	...	...	...	Total lbs. 11,866,910	...
Comparative period last season	...	...	...	9,732,881	...
TO GREAT BRITAIN.					
From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,300	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,337,800	61,980
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	59,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,930,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	85,560,452	64,163

EXPORTS FROM CHINA.

Per Clarendon, from Shanghai, March 11, to New York. Tea, 125,796 lbs.

Per Eliza and Ella, from Shanghai, March 16, to New York. Tea, 894,171 lbs.; raw silk, 20 piculs.

Per Melbourne, from Foo-chow-foo, March 20, to Australia. Tea, 464,000 lbs.

Per Comet, from Canton, March 15, to New York. Tea, 681,400 lbs.; pongees, 6,450 pieces; sarsnets, 123; crape shawls and scarfs, 10,540; raw silk, 40; cassia, 65 piculs; matting, 3,036 rolls; sweetmeats, 100 boxes; fire crackers, 11,900; cassia oil, 12; fans, 494; cassia buds, 53.

Per Pekin, mail steamer, from Hong Kong, March 16, to England. Silk, 1,833 bales. To the Continent, 488.

Per Willy, from Hong Kong, March 14, to San Francisco. Tea, 130 packages; sugar, 1,440 piculs; rice, 1,450; matting, 1,000 rolls; opium, 1,800 taels; China goods, 2,322 packages.

Per Bald Eagle, from Hong Kong, March 15, to San Francisco. Tea, 1,511 packages; sugar, 2,512 piculs; rice, 7,016; oil, 300; opium, 6,000 taels; China goods, 2,734 packages.

EXPORTS FROM MANILA.

Per Melancthon, March 13, to Cork. Hemp, 3,500 piculs; sugar, 6,000.

Per Avalanche, March 17, to London. Hemp, 6,500 piculs; sugar, 8,000; sapanwood, 200; cigars, 1,320 mil.

Per Sultan, March 23, to New York. Hemp, 11,400 piculs; sugar, 8,000; sapanwood, 200; cigars, 100 mil.

Per Nelly, March 14, to Sydney. Sugar, 9,150 piculs; coffee, 450; cigars, 1,000.

Per S. H. Talbot, March 16, to Sydney. Sugar, 11,200 piculs; coffee, 265; cigars, 5 mil.

EXPORTS FROM SINGAPORE.

Per Barracouta, to London, March 27. Gambier, 841 piculs.

Per Crisis, to Liverpool, March 28. Tin, 324 piculs; sago flour, 7,761; rattans, 85; sapanwood, 84; white pepper, 91; India rubber, 70; Coffee, 33; Malacca canes, 12,000; Matting, 5 bundles.

Per Champion, to Liverpool, April 2. Gambier, 2,523 piculs; sago flour, 4,410, sapanwood, 255; rattans, 88; white pepper, 60; black pepper, 200.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVED.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: March 14, George Washington. From Liverpool: 16, Egan. From Cardiff: 14, Constance; 15, Juliane. From Brest: 8, Cardinal Hamblin.

At HONG KONG, MACAO, and CANTON.—From London: March 18, Star of the North; 22, Strathallan; Veloz. From Cardiff: 19, Saracen; 29, Prius veld Abrar Schulk. From Newcastle: 23, Spirit of the North. From Toulong: 31, Antoinette. From Bordeaux: 23, Aquitaine. From New York: 20, Fire Dart (str.); 21, Independence.

At MANILA.—From Cadiz: March 18, H.C.M.S. Animosa (str.); H.C.M.S. Valiente.

At BATAVIA.—From Liverpool: March —, Java, Britannia.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: March 24, Procymatia; 28, Kamehameha IV.; April 4, Peter Symons. From Cardiff: March 28, Arracan; April 3, Schelde; 5, Garland. From Newcastle: 3, Elix Ruboke. From Boston: 4, Hollander.

SAILED.

From SHANGHAI.—For New York: March 11, Lord Clarendon; 16, Eliza and Ella.

From HONG KONG, MACAO, and CANTON.—For England: March 21, H.M.S. Furious. For Havana: 12, Fides; 19, Messenger. For Demerara: Sea Park; 26, Lancashire Witch.

From MANILA.—For London: March 17, Avalanche. For Cork: 13, Melancthon. For New York: 23, Sultan.

From SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: March 27, Crisis; April 2, Champion.

LOADING.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Egmont, Glencoe. For New York: Mary and Louisa.

At FOO-CHOW-FOO.—For London: Excelsior, Europe, Kinnaird, Oriental, Japan. For Australia: M. R. Mitford.

At HONG KONG, MACAO, and CANTON.—For London: Panic, Strathallan, Strathmore, Weymouth. For Havana: Independence. For Demerara: Whirlwind. For Sydney and Melbourne: Arabian, Marian Moore. For San Francisco: Challenge, Early Bird, Franklin Haven, Imperial, Nor' Wester, White Swallow.

At MANILA.—For Melbourne: Joshua Bates, Peking.
At SINGAPORE.—For London: Procymatia, Sappho. For Liverpool: Kamehameha IV., Skiddaw. For Genoa: Ricardo Schmidt.

CASUALTIES.

The Beuin (Dutch), from Rotterdam to Macassar, was lost near the latter place on the 13th March. The crew and passengers have been saved.

The Norseman, from Batavia to Hong Kong, reports seeing a large round stern ship, having the appearance of an American, on shore on Helen Shoal. She stood in as close as possible, but could see no signs of life on board.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

At SHANGHAI.—To London: tea, £2. 10s. To New York: tea, $'0; silk, $20. There is still a scarcity of suitable tonnage for the coast, &c., and in consequence of which but a moderate business has been done. Amongst the charters reported are—Griefswold to Foo-chow-Foo and back, 40 lay days, $4.500; Earl of Chester to Swatow, 25 lay days, $1,900; Armistice, at $1,600 nett per month; Grenada to Hankow and back, at $1.300 dollars per month; Faust to Tien tsin, at $8 per ton.

At FOO-CHOW-FOO.—To London, £3. 10s.

At HONG KONG, MACAO and CANTON.—For London: £2. 10s. to £3. The demand for tonnage continues, and a larger amount of business would be done if suitable craft was at hand. The above rates are likely to continue until the new teas come to hand in June, when, if the present demand continues, higher rates may be expected. A brisk demand is also experienced for emigration purposes. For Sydney and Melbourne a good business has been done for both cargo and passengers. Amongst the settlements are—Strathallan to London at current rates, British-Empire, from Riceports to Great Britain, at £3 15s. to £4, or 10s. extra to the Continent. Challenge, to San Francisco, at $19,000 nett. Six vessels to Saigon and back at 70c. per picul, and nine vessels to Bankok and back, at 55c. to 65c. per picul. Maria, at $1,300 per month. Jan Hendrik, to Batavia, for 6,000 guilders. The Governor-General, steamer, has been sold for between £8,000 to £10 000.

At MANILA.—There is not a single vessel here available for charter, and the present rates are likely to advance at the next arrivals.

At BATAVIA.—To the Continent: £3 5s. A very small business is doing as produce is so scarce, and although there is such a demand at the other ports, rates have given way, and are not likely to improve until August, when produce will be more plentiful. The Magdalena and Neptune are loading rice at Akyab, at £4.

At SINGAPORE.—To London, £3 10s. to £4. A scarcity of shipping still prevails at this port, although charters are still offered for the rice ports. A few coast charters are the only engagements that have taken place.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From England and Continent to China: March 16. Sultana, Eloisa, Robin Hood, Cornelis Gips; 17, Zanzibar; 22, Invincible; 29, Veronica; 30, Georgiana. To Batavia: 22, Gerilla. To Manila: 27, Soberana. From China to England and Continent: 17, Caroline, 18, Morayshire; 19, Rostock; 21, Dr. J. Jantsen, 22, Merchantman; 23, Shantung; Bacchante, Humphrey Nelson. To New York: 18, Onward. To Melbourne: 18, China. To Demerara: 18, Mystery. To Havana: 23, Independence. From Manila to London: 18, Mary Shepherd. To Liverpool; 18, Sales; 22, Queen of the East. To Cadiz: 21, Reina de los Angeles. From Holland to Batavia: 10, Bilderdyk; 16, J. C. Ross, America. From Batavia to Holland: 18, Stella Maris; 26, Johanna Maria; 27, Beatrix; 30, Hebe. From Singapore to Hamburg: 15, J. H. Becker.

THE CHINA MAILS.

The following notice has been issued from the Post-office:—

The second monthly mail to Penang, Singapore, and China—namely, that now despatched *via* Southampton on the 20th and *via* Marseilles on the 26th of the month, will be discontinued after the month of June next. Commencing with July, therefore, the mails for Penang, Singapore, and China will only be forwarded *via* Southampton on the 4th, and *via* Marseilles on the 10th of each month. By command of the Postmaster-General, ROWLAND HILL, Secretary. General Post office, May 11.

A reference to our Parliamentary Intelligence will further elucidate this notification and show that a subsidy of £24,000 per annum has hitherto been paid by Government to the Peninsular and Oriental Company for the conveyance of the bimonthly mail to China. This subsidy it is proposed to discontinue on the 30th of June; but the grounds for such a suicidal step we are of course not favoured with by Government. By the public—even by those who do not care a straw for our interests in the Far East—we venture to assert that any interruption of our means of communication with a country against which we have just thought it worth expending millions in order to obtain an extension of our tradal privileges, will, indeed, be considered suicidal, more especially when such comparatively useless subsidies are granted as that voted to the Galway line of steamers to America.

We are, however, enabled to announce that representations will be made by those interested in the China trade, which will induce Her Majesty's Government to continue the present subsidy, as, by their own showing, the Post-office receive one-half the subsidy of £24,000 per annum for postages by the bimonthly mail, and we have good authority for believing that this acknowledged sum of £12,000 is much understated. But, admitting that the outlay is £12,000 per annum, how insignificant are these figures when compared with our interests in the Far East. The places which will suffer in addition to China and Japan, are not by any means unimportant to English commerce, and include our own settlements of Singapore, Penang, and Labuan; Java, Siam, Borneo, Cochin China, and the Philippines. We cannot for one moment believe that the present Government will refuse to make the necessary grant, but should it do so we can fall back on the P. and O. Company to convey our mails to Calcutta on the 20th and 26th of each month; and from thence they can be forwarded by one of the many fine steamers now trading between Calcutta, Penang, Singapore, and Hong Kong, and considering the very superior speed of such boats as the *Firy Cross*, *Lancefield*, *Thunder*, and *Lightning*, they will reach their destination as soon as by the present conveyance from Galle by the P. and O. boats. But we much prefer to see the carriage of our mails performed by vessels paid for that purpose by Government, and under the usual penalties for their proper and due transmission.

Truly does *The Times* say, in alluding to the encouraging prospects of our trade with China, that the Post-office, in choosing this special time for reducing the frequency of the mails by one-half, betrays "a perversity which amounts almost to genius."

Continental Intelligence.

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 2.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

On the proposition of the Minister of Finance and by the advice of the Council of State, the Emperor has been pleased, by ukase of the 30th of March (11th April) last, to permit the importation of tea both by sea and land, into the empire of Russia and kingdom of Poland under the following regulations:—

Merchants of Kiachta enjoying the right of trading with China, are permitted in future to exercise that privilege either by the barter of goods, or by sale and purchase of commodities by payments of gold and silver without any restriction. The same applies also to merchants of Kouldja, Tchougoutchak and Kaschgar.

The China trade is permitted to all merchants belonging to either of the three guilds or classes, as well as to peasants in possession of the needful certificates of permission.

The restrictions hitherto imposed at Kiachta on the trade with China being abolished, and the commercial relations with that country being now placed by treaty on the broad basis of general principles, gold and silver, both in bar and specie, are struck out of the list of articles hitherto prohibited to be imported or exported by the tariff of Kiachta.

On and after the 1st of October next the duties on tea will be levied by the Custom-house at Kiachta and the other stations on the Asiatic land-frontiers of the empire as follows:—

1. On merchants' tea (*baykofje tchai*), black, green, and yellow teas, as well as tea blossom, 40 copecks per lb.
2. Merchants' tea, ordinary quality, 15 copecks per lb.
3. Brick tea, and that known by the name of *louganes*, as well as all teas of inferior quality, 2 copecks per lb.

On and after the 1st of April, 1862, the importation of tea in the European seaports and land-frontiers of the empire is permitted to take place as follows:—

a. At the land-frontier custom-houses at Jurbourg, Tauroggen, Radziwill, Novoseltsy, and Skouliany in Russia, and in the kingdom of Poland at Warsaw, Wirballen, Niescawa, Szcipiora, and Granitza, at a duty of 30 copecks per lb. for merchants' black tea, and 60 copecks per lb. for flowery teas, and black, green, and yellow tea.

b. At the ports of St. Petersburg, Archangel, Riga, Reval, Libau, Odessa, Theodosia, and Taganrog, at 35 and 65 copecks per lb. respectively as above.

The ukase further contains the regulations enacted to protect the revenue from smuggling, together with the pains and penalties to be inflicted on persons convicted of that illicit commerce, which I need not here particularise, further than stating that they are generally in accordance with the Custom-house regulations hitherto enforced in the seaports and frontier stations throughout the Russian Empire.

The Government of the "Celestial Empire" appears to have obtained a more extended idea of the power and resources of foreign nations since the disagreeable visit of the "red barbarians" to Peking last year, and seems inclined to regard them on a footing of equality. Hitherto China only recognised the existence of tributary princes and vassals, between whom and the Government the needful communication and relations were carried on by a sort of colonial department under the direction of officials of a very inferior grade.

Naval and Military.

We have to announce the further arrival of vessels from China with troops.

The *Indomitable*, transport, with a division of the 2nd (Queen's Royals) Regiment on board, consisting of 12 officers, 300 men, and 3 women, has arrived at Portsmouth, where the troops disembarked, and, headed by the band of the 2nd battalion of the 11th Regiment, marched into the garrison, and took up quarters in the Cambridge barracks. Three deaths among the troops have occurred on the passage home, but in all three cases from disease contracted previous to embarkation. The health of the troops, otherwise than the cases mentioned, has been excellent throughout the voyage.

The *Adventure*, Commander Edward Lacy, arrived at Spithead on the 1st inst., with the head-quarters of the Royal Marine battalion on board, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel John H. Gascoigne, consisting of 24 officers and 500 non-commissioned officers and men, who have proceeded to Chatham garrison and joined head-quarters.

The *Cyclops*, Captain W. J. S. Pullen, arrived at Spithead on the 4th inst. with a few naval invalids on board, from the Cape. The *Cyclops* was engaged while at the Cape of Good Hope in removing the detachment of the 3rd Buffs from the wrecked transport ship *Miles Barton*, in Struys Bay. This vessel made the fifth wreck on which the *Cyclops* had been in attendance during her present commission.

The *Sparrowhawk*, Commander J. T. Byng, was officially inspected at Spithead on the 4th inst., and afterwards went into Portsmouth harbour, where she will be dismantled and return stores, pay off her crew, and be put out of commission. A part of the crew of her Majesty's late screw troopship *Assistance* came home in the *Sparrowhawk*.

The *Mars* troopship, Captain Anderson, was towed into Portsmouth harbour on the 8th inst., and discharged her troops, consisting of Royal Artillery, from China. They consist of Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Barry's battery of the 4th Brigade—two captains, one lieutenant, one assistant-surgeon, one veterinary-surgeon, two staff-sergeants, eight sergeants, five corporals, 18 bombardiers, 89 gunners, 67 drivers, two trumpeters, and 13 artificers; one bombardier of Captain Millward's battery; and Major Rotton's battery of the 2nd Brigade—one lieutenant, one assist.-surgeon, two sergeants, two corporals, four bombardiers, one trumpeter, and two artificers. Lieut.-Colonel Barry's battery will proceed to quarters at Christchurch. Major Rotton's battery proceeds to Dover. One death occurred during the passage, which was from dysentery.

His Netherland Majesty's steamer *Berkel*, 8 guns, from Helvoet, bound to Java, arrived in Falmouth on the 4th inst. to fill up coal, and was to sail for her destination on the following day.

A letter has appeared in the *Times* from "A Near Relative of One on Board" H.M.S. *Camilla*, in which he states that the Commander wrote home to a friend shortly before her loss, and stated that "the *Camilla* had the dry rot in her port quarter; that she was so leaky he feared he should never get her home; that she would have to be broken up out there."

It is announced by the *United Service Gazette* that the recently established Sanitarium at the Cape for the treatment of military invalids from India is about to be abandoned, and the extensive buildings sold, of course for a fraction of the money which had been expended on their construction. A collision of departments has, as usual, been the cause of this profligate waste of the public money. The India Government have, we understand, refused to allow their invalids to be sent there, and as the Sanitarium would, in consequence, be useless, Lord Herbert has ordered the works to be stopped, of course sacrificing all the money that has already been expended. The blame in this case appears to lie entirely at the door of the India Office.

Captain Henry Trollope, R.N., late principal Agent for Transports in China, arrived at Southampton by the P. & O. str. *Ceylon* on the 1st inst.

It is certain that the Horse Guards have come to the conclusion to reduce eight depot battalions; and it is also believed that the 1st and 2nd depot battalions, from the 1st Royals down to the 25th Regiment, will be amalgamated into one depot battalion for each corps.

CANTON PRIZE MONEY.

Notice is hereby given, that the distribution of the prize money for the capture of the city of Canton, on the 28th and 29th of December, 1857, to the land forces present at the said capture (including those portions of the Royal Marine Artillery and Light Infantry serving on shore), under the command of Major-General Sir Charles Thomas van Straubenzee, K.C.B., will commence at my office on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., to those entitled, and will be continued daily (except on Mondays and Thursdays) during the hours of eleven to two o'clock.

The following are the regiments, &c., entitled to share, viz., General Staff, &c., Medical Staff Corps, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, 59th Regiment, Acting Military Train, 38th Madras Native Infantry, Royal Marine Artillery, and Royal Marine Light Infantry, who served on shore under the Major-General commanding.

A. MOORHEAD, Secretary to the Commissioners,

CHINA MISSION BREAKFAST.—The friends of the Wesleyan Mission to China sat down on the 27th April to a public breakfast at the London Tavern. Mr. Francis Lycett presided, and pointed out the many hopeful signs there are at present in China with reference to Missionary work. The Rev. Josiah Cox, who arrived in England last summer, gave a long and extremely interesting account of his life and work in China, and excited great interest by referring to the Taepings and to documents he had just received from the "Shield King." "I have received," he said, "since I came into the room, this letter (holding up a yellow piece of silk covered with Chinese characters) from the "Shield King." I have not read it all, but he announces to my colleagues and myself his journey from Canton, through the provinces, to join his brother, and his promotion to be the veritable "Shield King." He expresses a hope that his presence at Nanking may be the means of spreading Christianity, and desires us to go and assist him in preaching the Gospel. I lived with him four months. Morning and evening we united in prayer and reading the Scriptures, and spent the day in various employments, such as preaching and visiting. He is well educated, and better instructed in systematic theology, than any Chinaman I have seen. Mr. Cox admitted, however, that the "Shield King" lacked judgment, that he was ambitious, that he has recently become guilty of polygamy, and has made insinuations against one or two of the missionaries. Mr. Cox thinks that the movement of the Taepings is of the greatest importance, and that there is more to hope for, for the renovation of China, and for its advancement in all the sciences and arts, and appliances of Western civilisation, from the success of that movement, than of all other operations combined. Mr. Cox described in graphic language the horrors now being perpetrated in China by Imperialist soldiers, as well as by the rebels. In allusion to this meeting and to Mr. Cox's speech, the *Watchman* asserts that Kang-Wang is, "beyond comparison the most extraordinary Chinaman of whom we have any account since Confucius," and that he is "the master-mind, the teacher, legislator, and administrator of the renovated Chinese empire."

THE investigation relating to the robbery of ten bales of China raw silk the property of the St. Katharine Dock Company, and which has been pending for seven weeks, has been brought to a close. The prisoners are committed for trial.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE SUEZ CANAL.—(6.) Lord CARNARVON, in moving for copies of correspondence between her Majesty's Government and the Consul-General of Egypt, and of any other communications that have passed between her Majesty's Government and the Governments of Turkey and France relative to the proposed construction of the Suez Canal, called the attention of the House to the danger which would arise if a foreign Government, acting through a foreign company, should become owners of property in the very heart of Egypt. He referred to the fact that M. Lesseps had persuaded the Viceroy to subscribe the enormous sum of £3,500,000 to the undertaking, although at the present moment the revenues of Egypt did not exceed £5,000,000 a-year. He also asked under what sanction this work was being carried on?—Lord WODEHOUSE, in reply, observed that the policy of her Majesty's Government in respect to the Suez Canal had been in no respect changed. They continued to think that the scheme was impracticable in itself, and that other considerations existed which rendered it necessary to watch the project with great care. The question, however, was one for the consideration of the Porte, with whom her Majesty's Government were in communication on the subject.—After some remarks by Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE, Lord ELLENBOROUGH said two things ought to be done by the Government, and at once, to guarantee our communications with India—first, to lay down telegraphic wires between India, Aden, and Perim; second, that a very numerous and able body of consular agents ought to be established in Egypt to supply the Government with the fullest information on all points. The motion pressing for copies of correspondence on the subject was then withdrawn.

WILLS OF PERSONALITY BY BRITISH SUBJECTS BILL—(7th). Lord LYNDHURST, in a lucid and able speech, but of a very technical character, stated his reasons for supporting the Bill, which was referred to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FROM THE 26TH APRIL TO THE 8TH MAY.

CAPTAIN BRABAZON.—(26.) General PEEL asked what steps the Government had taken to ascertain whether the report of the murder of Captain Brabazon, of the Royal Artillery, by the Chinese was true. He had been requested by the family to bring the matter before the House and the Government. Major Brabazon was dissatisfied with the want of evidence of his son's death, and complained that before Lord Elgin quitted Peking he did not take every means in his power of ascertaining the accuracy or inaccuracy of the report of the death of Captain Brabazon. Lord Elgin, writing to Lord J. Russell on the 26th of October, stated that Captain Brabazon, together with a French gentleman, was beheaded, after the action on the 19th of September, by the direction of a Chinese general who was wounded on that occasion. He added that he was inclined to credit the report, although he had no positive evidence of the facts, and that Captain Brabazon was an officer of much promise. Major Brabazon complained that every step was not taken to prove the truth of that report—that even the most obvious and common methods were not employed. It was reported that after the execution the body of Captain Brabazon was thrown into a canal. Major Brabazon complained that the canal was never dragged, although by such a simple expedient some remnant of clothing or something else proving the accuracy of the report might have been discovered. He also stated the extraordinary fact that our troops entered the town where the execution was supposed to have taken place on the evening of the same day, that they remained there for ten days, held an open market, and were in constant communication with the Chinese, and yet that not a single whisper reached them of such an execution having taken place. It had likewise come to his knowledge that on the 1st of October, the day after the troops left, a British subject was executed by the Chinese, and that either the fact was not known to the English authorities, or they had not thought it worth their while to take notice of it. The man was a private of the 31st Regiment. Upon application to the War-office Major Brabazon was told that they knew nothing of the subject; that the only information they had received was that a man had died on the 1st of October; and it was only on referring to the depot of his regiment that Major Brabazon discovered the man was beheaded by the Chinese. Major Brabazon supposed, very naturally, that the execution of this private soldier might have given rise to the report of the death of his son. There were many other circumstances which led him to the same conclusion. Perhaps he was too sanguine in his confident belief that his son was still alive. We all know how people were apt to cling to the last hope; but he so far agreed with Major Brabazon that, having read with the greatest attention all the evidence which had

been produced on the subject, he thought there was no absolute proof of Captain Brabazon's death. He did not wish, of course, to raise any discussion as to the probability or improbability of Captain Brabazon being still alive; but Lord Elgin had not left the matter in a satisfactory state. As long as there was, he would not say a probability, but a possibility of Captain Brabazon being alive, it was the bounden duty of the British authorities in China to take every step in their power that no doubt should be left as to the accuracy of the report of his death. Captain Brabazon was a very distinguished officer, and his loss would be a misfortune to the public service as well as to his friends; but it would have been equally the duty of the authorities to make every possible inquiry if he had been the humblest drummer-boy in the army.—Mr. GREGORY said he was extremely sorry that he had been absent when his right hon. and gallant friend had called attention to the fate of Captain Brabazon. It was a matter of great satisfaction to him that that subject had been taken up by one who was himself not only professionally connected with the army, but who had been a Cabinet Minister and a Secretary of State for War. He understood that the right hon. and gallant gentleman had alluded to the story that Captain Brabazon, having been dismissed by the Tartar general, Sangkolinsin, and having met the Chinese general who was supposed to have been mortally wounded in a recent engagement, was by him condemned to decapitation, and was so decapitated and his body thrown into the canal at Pa-li-chiau. Now, the evidence which had been received of that story was of such a nature that no insurance-office in the kingdom would pay a life policy upon such unsatisfactory information. The story went that Captain Brabazon was beheaded, and that on the same day the British army marched to Pa-li-chiau, where he was said to have been executed, and remained encamped there for ten days. It was a singular circumstance, therefore, that while such an event as the decapitation of an English officer must, if it really occurred, have attracted the notice of the natives, yet, although our troops were in constant communication with the Chinese people, not a word ever reached their ears, during the whole of their ten days' encampment, that one of their comrades had been killed or thrown into the canal. Moreover, if it had transpired that he was thrown into the canal, the question naturally arose, how came it that the canal was not dragged for his body, or some part of his clothing that might have led to his identification? The answer made to that was, that the bodies of several hundred Chinese who had been killed in the late action were thrown into the same canal, so that it would have been impossible to tell whether Captain Brabazon was there or not. Now, he had been given to understand by a military officer of high rank that while our army lay encamped for those ten days he passed close by the canal daily, and never saw the least sign of a human being in it. The right hon. and gallant gentleman had referred to the case of two other Europeans who were decapitated at Ho-se-woo, and whose bodies were subsequently discovered —a circumstance which might have given rise to the tale of Captain Brabazon and the Abbe de Luc's execution. The tale was, however, utterly unreliable, as might be seen from the papers in the Blue-book. The Chinese story was contradicted by Chinese authority. He would put the matter as plainly as possible before the House. The Chinese themselves had stated that twelve days after the reported death of Captain Brabazon that officer was still alive. It would be found from Mr. Parkes' despatch that Hangki spoke to him of prisoners detained in the camp of Sangkolinsin on the 3rd of October, whereas the story of the decapitation was fixed on the 21st of September. From the evidence of the sowar Jowalla Sing it was clear that Captain Brabazon and the Abbé de Luc were separated from the other prisoners, and kept in Sangkolinsin's camp. The despatch of the Prince Kung, the Emperor's brother, addressed to Lord Elgin, also stated that the Chinese had interpreters with them who were quite capable of discussing the points of difference between the two Powers, and among them he mentioned Consul Parkes and a French officer named "I," who was taken to be the Abbé de Luc. Prince Kung's despatch was dated the 3rd of October, while Captain Brabazon's decapitation was reported to have occurred on the 21st of September. To identify the person named "I" with the Abbé de Luc it should be observed that it was notorious there were no Frenchmen with the Chinese army who understood Chinese, and who were taken prisoners, except the Abbé de Luc, who was kept separate from the other prisoners, and placed in conjunction with Captain Brabazon. No tale could be more absurd than that Sangkolinsin dismissed Captain Brabazon on the 18th or 21st of September, for the date was variously stated. It could not for a moment hold water. We knew with what tenacity the authorities at Peking had clung to their prisoners. Discussion after discussion took place between the British and the Chinese as to their surrender, and nothing but our threat to totally destroy the capital enabled us to extricate them from their clutches. Now, here we had it alleged that Sangkolinsin was in possession of an English officer of artillery of high position, and had a foreigner who spoke Chinese along with him; and yet it was stated that, eighteen days before the other prisoners were delivered up by the Chinese with the greatest reluctance, Sangkolinsin dismissed that officer without any stipulation whatever. That story was almost incredible; and certainly not a stone ought to be left unturned before we abandoned our search for this unfortunate gentleman—(hear, hear). For the sake of his suffering relatives the Government were bound to make every investigation in their power in order to obtain some trace of him. In his despatches Consul Parkes particularly alluded to the great anxiety of the Chinese authorities to inquire into the nature of our guns and how far they carried, together with other circumstances connected with our army; and he remarked it as a very notable thing that since General Sangkolinsin had held his command extraordinary attention had been paid by the Chinese to their artillery, which had undergone a marvellous improvement between the affair at Canton and the attack on the Taku forts. It was therefore just possible that this young officer, being known to belong to our artillery, might have been separated from the other European prisoners, and put in conjunction with the Abbé de Luc, who spoke Chinese, for the purpose of assisting the Chinese to improve their own artillery. That was nothing but a mere conjecture; yet we ought not to rest satisfied until we had followed up every possible clue to the discovery of Captain Brabazon—an officer of the greatest promise, whom he had known from his boyhood—(hear, hear). He could not abstain from complimenting the noble lord at the head of the Foreign Department for having shown himself, since the commencement of the unhappy business, most anxious to render any information in his power in order to dispel the incertitude of a bereaved family.—Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to General Peel, said he sympathised with the relatives of Captain Brabazon in their anxiety to ascertain the real truth as to his fate, but he was afraid the only consolation left to them was that he had escaped the lingering and barbarous torments to which his unfortunate comrades had been subjected. At the same time, he assured the House that Lord J. Russell had taken every means that could be employed to clear up the mystery. As far back as February the noble lord sent out most stringent instructions to Mr. Bruce to take every means, official and unofficial, for the purpose of ascertaining distinctly the fate of Captain Brabazon; and he was bound in justice to the Russian Government to say that, as it was sending a new Minister to Peking, instructions were given him by his Government that the first duty he had to perform was to use every means in his own power, and to co-operate with Mr. Bruce, in clearing up the fate of this gallant officer.

THE TAEPINGS.—(8.) Colonel SYKES asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether there was any foundation for a statement in recent newspapers from China that a British ship of war had been stationed off the city of Nanking, notwithstanding the opposition of the Taeping Emperor, or whether, as was stated by the last mail from China, amicable relations had been established with the Taepings, and, if so, on what footing; and whether the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs had received further papers on Chinese affairs, which he could lay before the House?—Lord J. RUSSELL was understood to say that a despatch had been received from Admiral Hope to the effect that a ship of war had been sent up the Yang-tze-kiang to be in communication with Nanking, and that the relations then subsisting were of an amicable nature. The papers would be laid on the table of the House.

MAILS TO CHINA.—(6.) Mr. LONGFIELD asked the Secretary to the Treasury whether, having regard to the estimate for the Post-office Packet Service for the year 1861-2, it was the intention of her Majesty's Government to discontinue the additional mail monthly to and from China, and whether any notice had been given to her Majesty's Postmaster-General to that effect; and, if so, to state what had been the expense to the public for this fortnightly mail, giving credit for the sums received for postage of letters thereby.—Mr. F. PEEL said that the second mail to China was a service that had been voluntarily performed by the company since 1857. At the close of last year, and also the year preceding, the company applied to the Government for remuneration for that additional mail service, and rather than submit to the inconvenience of its sudden discontinuance the Treasury consented to pay a subsidy of £2,000 for the double voyage for a period of six months from the commencement of the present year. Notice had been given to the Postmaster-General that at the expiration of that six months the subsidy would cease. The cost of the subsidy for that fortnightly mail would be at the rate of £24,000 per annum. The whole sea postage from this country upon letters conveyed by the second mail to China was about £12,000 a-year.

JAPAN.—(9.) Mr. COCHRANE gave notice that on Monday next he would move for copies of all correspondence connected with Japan, especially for the papers relating to conferences of all the European Ministers held at Yedo, and the letters that have passed between our Minister, Mr. Alcock, and the American Minister, Mr. Harris.

EXPENSE OF THE CHINA WAR.—(9.) Sir S. NORTHCOTE, in the absence of General Peel, moved an address for account of all sums paid by the Imperial Government to the Government of India for advances or disbursements on account of the war in China; and an estimate of all further claims on the same account up to the 1st day of May, 1861.—The motion was agreed to.

BANQUET TO LORD ELGIN.

Last Wednesday night the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress gave a banquet in honour of the Earl of Elgin on his return from the scene of his diplomatic exploits. The dinner was held in the Egyptian Hall, which presented a brilliant spectacle on the occasion. A company of the Six Feet Volunteers, under the command of Lieutenant Thomson, lined the staircase and entrance-hall, and saluted the Earl and Countess of Elgin on their arrival. The band of the corps was also in attendance and struck up at the same moment the air of "Bruce's Address to his Army."

On the guests passing from the Reception-room to the Banquetting-hall the Volunteers presented arms and formed in the Saloon.

On the right of the Lord Mayor sat the Earl and Countess of Elgin, the Duke of Somerset, the Marquis of Tweedale, Lady Mary Fielding, the Earl of Denbigh, the Earl of Leven, the Countess of Courtoun, the Earl Courtoun, the Countess Kintore, the Earl of Kintore, Lady A. Churchill, Lord A. Churchill, M.P., Lady H. Vane, Lord Harry Vane, M.P., Lord Wodehouse, the Countess of Rothes, the Hon. G. Waldegrave, Lady Camilla Fortescue, and the Hon. D. Fortescue.

On the left of the Lord Mayor were, the Duke of Argyll, Lady Caroline Charteris, the Earl of Minto, the Countess of Minto, the Earl of Durham, the Countess of Durham, Lord Henry Lennox, M.P., Lady Charles Wellesley, Lord Ernest Bruce, M.P., Mr. Locker, Lady Charlotte Locker, Lord Mark Kerr, Lady Hope Grant, Lieutenant-General Sir Hope Grant, the Hon. Mrs. Grey, Major-General the Hon. R. Bruce, and the Hon. T. Bruce.

Among the other guests were:—Lord Thurlow, Major the Hon. A. Anson, V.C.; the Hon. R. Moreton, the Hon. J. Thurlow, the Hon. J. S. Wortley, the Marquis and Marquise de Vinchiaturo, Sir A. Agnew, M.P., Sir R. Anstruther, Sir James Fergusson, M.P., Sir A. Gordon Cumming and Lady Gordon Cumming, Sir E. Grogan, M.P., Sir Roderick Murchison, Sir Charles and Lady Trevelyan, Sir R., Lady, and Miss Mayne; Sir Cusack Roney, Sir J. Yorke Scarlett, Sir J. Shaw Lefevre, Lady Hislop, Sir Henry Rawlinson, Major-General Sir P. Grant, Sir Andrew and Lady Waugh, Admiral Walcott, M.P., and Miss Walcott, General and Mrs. Cannon, Colonel and Lady Jane Dundas, Lieutenant-Colonel Crealock, Colonel and Mrs. Caulfield, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Hicks, Captain Balfour, R.N., Major Cumming and Lady Elma Bruce, Mr. Edward Ellice, M.P., and Mrs. Ellice, Mr. T. A. Mitchell, M.P., Mr. K. Seymer, M.P., and Mrs. Seymer, Major Edwards, M.P., and Mrs. Edwards, Mr.

Walter, M.P., and Mrs. Walter, Mr. S. Gregson, M.P., Mr. Cobbett, M.P., Mr. Warner, M.P., and Mrs. Warner, Mr. Ball, M.P., Mr. C. and Hon. Mrs. Bruce, Lady Geary and Miss Geary, Mr. and Mrs. William Humphery, Mr. and Mrs. John Humphery, Miss Olliffe, Miss E. Olliffe, Mr. and Mrs. Bowring, Mr. Henry Loch, Mr. J. Loch, Mr. W. Loch, Mr. West, Mr. Alston, Mrs. Parkes, Mr. J. Abel Smith, Mr. J. T. Delane, Mrs. Vivian, Mr. and Mrs. J. Brand, Mr. Strachey, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Gassiott, Mr. J. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. and Mrs. Mowatt, Mr. John Chaplin, V.C., Mr. French, Captain Smithett, Captain Erskine, Mr. Thwaites, Mr. H. Kingscote, Captain Burstall, Mr. and Mrs. Lambton, Mr. and Mrs. Houblon, Mr., Lady Mary, and Miss Nisbet Hamilton, Captain Grant, A.D.C., Mr. and Mrs. Dent, Mr. and Mrs. Low, Mr. and Mrs. Marston. Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, Mr. William Dent, Mr. Wilkinson Dent, Mr. G. Moore, Mr. D. and Mrs. Harrison, Captain Mangles, Mr. G. May, Mr. W. Gladstone, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace, Mr. Grey, Dr. Wadham, Dr. Home, Mr. J. Arbuthnot, Mr. J. Fletcher, Mr. Allaidier, Mr. Akroyd, Mr. Durant, Mr. T. Dent, Mr. C. L. Norman, Mr. T. J. Gibb, Mr. J. W. Baynes, Mr. Prevost, Mr. Magniac, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, Mr. P. Bell, Mr. J. Bates, Mr. P. Macpherson, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Daniels, Mr. Meinitzhagen, Mr. A. Brand, Mr. Entwisle, Mr. J. Markham, &c., Mr. Alderman and Mrs. Humphrey, Mr. Alderman Wilson, Sir J. Musgrove, Mr. Alderman Sidney, M.P., Sir F. G. Moon, Mr. Alderman Salomons, M.P., Mr. Alderman Finnis, Sir R. Carden, Mr. Alderman Carter, Sir H. Muggeridge, Mr. Alderman Rose, Mr. Alderman Lawrence, Mr. Alderman Gabriel, Mr. Alderman Phillips, Mr. Alderman Mechi, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Abbiss, Mr. Alderman Lawrence, Mr. Alderman Dakin, Mr. Sheriff and Mrs. Lusk, the Chamberlain, Mr. Commissioner Harvey, the Common-Serjeant and Mrs. Chambers, &c.

The LORD MAYOR, in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Health of the Earl of Elgin," briefly described the noble lord's services in the East, and warmly eulogised his talents and his patriotism.

The toast was received with enthusiasm.

The Earl of ELGIN, on rising to respond, was greeted with loud and continued cheers. He said,—My Lord Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen, —At any time and under any circumstances such a reception as that with which you have just honoured me could not fail to awaken in my mind feelings of the liveliest satisfaction and gratitude. But at the present moment, and under existing circumstances, the welcome accorded to me in this place has a significance which I trust I may be permitted to say gives it a double value in my eyes. Little more than a year has elapsed since I was invited to the Council Chamber of the Guildhall to receive at the hands of the authorities of this great city the high and honourable distinction of the civic freedom. And I will confess that when that invitation reached me the first impression which it produced upon me was one of painful embarrassment. I was under a cloud at that time. The Chinese Government had then manifested a determination to resist by force the exercise of the rights and privileges secured for Her Majesty and Her Majesty's subjects by the treaty which had been negotiated by myself at Tien-tsin; and I felt that I could hardly consent, without indecorum, to become the recipient of so signal a favour while the work in which I had been engaged was still disfigured by the mark of incompleteness and imperfection. If, my Lord Mayor, I overcame my reluctance to present myself before the authorities of the city on that occasion, I did so partly because I held their invitation to be a command and partly because I hoped that during the course of the ceremony some opportunity would be afforded me of which I could take advantage to pledge myself to fresh exertions and renewed sacrifices, if such should become necessary, in order to justify the kindness and confidence of which they were then so generously, by way of anticipation, giving me that gratifying proof. My Lord Mayor, I attach a special value to your reception of me this evening, because I trust I may infer from it that in the judgment of your lordship and of this company I have not wholly failed in my endeavour to redeem that pledge—(cheers). It is, of course, perfectly impossible for me, within the limited space of time that can be suffered to elapse between two glasses of wine at your lordship's hospitable board—(a laugh)—to attempt to enter into a detailed explanation or vindication of the policy which has led, thanks to my gallant friend who lately addressed you, and thanks also, I must say to that distinguished man Admiral Hope, to whom we were so much indebted for bringing up our troops to the North of China, and for his admirable organisation and arrangements,—it is impossible for me here to enter into a justification of the policy which took a victorious army to Peking, and dictated a peace there, or to sketch even in outline the vast results, whether as affecting the interests of our commerce, our civilization, or our religion, which may be expected to ensue from international compacts which bring our merchants, our manufacturers, our missionaries, and our mariners into close relations with the teeming and industrious populations of China and Japan. But I am anxious to say a few words on these points, because I think that in reference to both of them some misconception exists, which is very desirable, if possible, to remove. To enable me to effect that object I must, in the first place, request you to perform what, perhaps, some may be disposed to think an extraordinary feat of memory—viz., to endeavour to recall your recollection of the state of feeling prevalent in England with regard to what was then styled the China question, in the spring of 1857, when I was first despatched on a mission to that country. I say that that may be supposed to be an extraordinary feat of memory, for, in truth, the wheel of the world's history has been revolving so rapidly of late—such stupendous events have been occurring since the period to which I refer, that it seems already to be separated from us by an interval that might be measured by ages instead of years. Let us glance at some of the most stupendous of these stupendous events. There was in the first place a dark spot in our Eastern sky not bigger when we first beheld it than a man's hand, but which very shortly assumed the proportions of a gigantic thunderstorm, apparently destined to shatter to fragments the mighty fabric of Britain's empire in the East, and yet which, thanks to the good providence of God, and the courage of our countrymen and countrywomen, served eventually only to bring out into stronger relief and to impart a brighter lustre to those qualities of our race, which enabled us to build up, maintain, and, when necessary, recover that empire—(cheers.) In another quarter of the globe, since that time, we have seen an ancient and illustrious nation shake off the unhealthy sleep by which it has been oppressed for centuries, and, under the chieftainship of heroic warriors and the guidance of wise statesmen, assume in our European system that dignified position to which scarcely any of the lovers of freedom, and the grateful inheritors of Italian civilization, had ventured again to summon her—(cheers.) In another hemisphere we have witnessed scenes;—but, no, the expression is an incorrect one, for it is with heavy hearts and averted eyes that the people of this country have listened to the dismal sounds of fratricidal conflicts which have reached them from America—(hear, hear). What wonder, then, if, with events of such magnitude passing before us, we find it difficult to realise the sensations we experienced four years ago on the occurrence of an event so comparatively insignificant as the Canton quarrel! And, yet let me remind you, that when that quarrel broke out, it produced in England very considerable anxiety and disquietude. In the first place, it affected in a very inconvenient manner the course of our domestic politics. A circumstance which, however trifling in itself, brings a popular and powerful administration into collision with the House of Commons, and then placing the House of Commons itself in apparent antagonism with the constituencies of the three kingdoms, cannot be treated as an indifferent matter. And independently of that there was throughout the country a very anxious feeling as to the complications which might possibly arise from a contest with an empire so vast, so populous, and so little known as China. I remember a very small incident which perhaps I ought not to mention, but it struck me forcibly, occurring to myself as it did, shortly before I left England for the East on my first mission. I happened to go, as everybody else was doing at the time, one Sunday morning to hear a very popular and celebrated preacher in the outskirts of London; and when I was coming out of the church a gentleman with whom I was unacquainted, but who had the kindness to provide a seat for me, said to me, "I hope, my lord, you will excuse me for what I am going to mention, but I was not able to take my eyes off you during the whole service, so engrossed was I with the thought of the enormous responsibilities that are about to devolve on you"—(hear). Well, under these circumstances, and with this sense of responsibility, which, as you may believe, I experienced at least as much as the public did, I started for China. And mark what followed. Before I had left home one month, and before I had approached my destination, I found myself in a position in which I felt it my duty to deprive myself by my own act of the aid of the army which had been equipped by this country to support me in carrying out the policy which Her Majesty's Government had prescribed—(hear). My Lord Mayor, I believe that at that particular moment I was placed in perhaps the strangest dilemma in which any public man ever stood. I had to choose between a course of proceeding which might, no doubt, have very seriously compromised my own success in China, and another course of proceeding which might have deprived my noble and high-minded friend Lord Canning of the most important assistance in his hour of utmost need—(hear, hear). Well, I deliberately, after mature reflection, and with my eyes open, preferred the former of those risks to the latter. I do not wish now to raise the question whether that was a right decision or not; but I think it ought to be borne in mind if I am charged, as I have since sometimes been during my first mission, with having occasionally attempted great things with a force apparently very inadequate. I do not attach very much value to criticism or commendation after the event in a transaction of that kind. But I must say I do attach very great value to a contemporary verdict, which I lately found on looking back to some of my old correspondence, in the shape of a letter addressed to me at the time by the late Sir Henry Ward, who, from his position, character, talents, and public services, was, perhaps, better able than any other man then living to judge of the propriety of the course which I took.—(hear, hear.) Sir Henry Ward was then administering with great honour to himself and great advantage to the colony, the Government of Ceylon, and was therefore both thoroughly aware of the claims which China had upon me and of the wants and necessities of India. I feel some scruple in reading this letter, because, written as it was in the excitement of the moment, the expressions in which he conveys his approbation of the course I adopted are, I well know, unduly forcible and strong; but, at the same time, the document has a great historic value, because it shows what were the very anxious thoughts then entertained by the persons most competent to form an opinion on the state and prospects of India. I will, therefore, quote a very few words. He begins in this way:—"You may think me impertinent in volunteering an opinion upon what, in the first instance, only concerns you, the Queen, and Lord Canning; but having seen something of public life during a great part of my own, which is now fast verging into 'the sear and yellow leaf,' I may venture to say that I never knew a nobler thing than that which you have done in preferring the safety of India to the success of your Chinese negotiations. If I know anything of English public opinion, that single act will place you higher in English estimation as a statesman than your whole past career, honourable and fortunate as it has been. For it is not every man who would venture to alter the destination of a force the despatch of which has dissolved a Parliament, and for changing the disposition of which a general might have been superseded. It is not every man who would consign himself for many months to political inaction in order simply to serve the interests of his country. You have set a bright example at a moment of darkness and calamity. And if India can be saved, it is to you that we shall owe its redemption, for nothing short of the Chinese expedition could have supplied the means of holding our ground until further reinforcements arrived."—(cheers.) I think that is a testimony, coming from such a man, of which any one may well be proud. Well, after this sacrifice had been made I proceeded to China. The Canton quarrel had already become so complicated that it was impossible to come to any terms of arrangement with the local Government in that neighbourhood, and, therefore, the capture of Canton was a matter of absolute necessity. But as soon as that capture was effected—and I am very desirous of impressing this on your minds, because it is not sufficiently understood in England—I deemed it my duty to take every step which I thought possible in order to bring the war to a close, and arrange terms of peace and

(*Continued in page* 281.)

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Suggestions for the insertion of information required by our subscribers will have due attention and acknowledgment.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

Post-office orders should be made payable at the Lombard-street Office, to MORTIMER WRIGHT.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, MAY 13, 1861.

THE FATE OF CAPTAIN BRABAZON.

A GREAT nation like England is bound to protect the meanest of her citizens from wrong, and is bound at the same time to avenge any insult or injury which may be inflicted upon them. Every one of her children should feel when in a foreign country, that so long as he does not wilfully transgress the laws of that country, the parent state is pledged to protect him and that his property and life are still under her guardianship. If this be true of every man who leaves the shores of England, how much more true should it be of those whose lives are especially devoted to their country's service. We maintain that in such a case the Government and people of England are bound to act promptly, generously, even lavishly; if by so acting they can solve a doubt or even confirm a terrible suspicion. The noble efforts made to gain tidings of Sir JOHN FRANKLIN and of his brave comrades, were not made in vain. They did not, indeed, result in saving those valuable lives, but they proved to all Englishmen in the time to come that their country would not forget them in the hour of need, and that even if her help were unavailing, it would not be unproffered. We doubt not that every soldier who left these shores to take part in the recent campaign in China, went forth cheered and stimulated by this conviction, and such comfort ought not to be illusory. In most instances we believe it is not, but a case has recently been brought before the attention of the House, which shows that the claims we have asserted for our countrymen are not in every case allowed, and that the feelings we have described cannot always be justly cherished. We need not here recapitulate all the facts respecting the loss of Captain BRABAZON—they must be perfectly familiar to our readers—neither shall we attempt to prove the probability or even possibility that he is yet alive. We prefer to take our stand on broader and safer ground, and to affirm, what even *The Times* will not dispute, that we have no proof of this gallant young officer's death. In a letter from Lord ELGIN to our FOREIGN SECRETARY in the month of October last, he states, "Of the British subjects captured, Captain BRABAZON of the Royal Artillery is alone unaccounted for. The silence of the Chinese authorities, who always plead ignorance of his fate when questioned on the subject, and rumours which reach us from various quarters, lead us to fear that he must have met a violent death." He then adds, "it is reported" that he was beheaded, that he is "inclined to credit this report," but that he has "no positive evidence of its accuracy." Rumours which Lord ELGIN is inclined to credit, though without positive evidence, may or may not be true. But the real question at issue is, whether we are to treat them as if they were true, and thus by accepting them as undoubted facts, to refrain from action altogether.

The Times is admirably expert in shelving any topic in which it has ceased to be interested; it possesses in perfection the happy or unhappy gift of crushing all enthusiasm or earnestness by a word and a blow just as Giant Despair in the "Pilgrim's Progress" knocked down Christian in the dungeon. It has adopted this course with regard to poor Captain BRABAZON. On the 26th of April General PEEL stated the whole circumstances of the case in the House of Commons and in the absence of the Foreign Secretary Lord PALMERSTON spoke in his usual manner, when he wishes to avoid a precise and definite reply. On the following morning *The Times* took up the ball which the PREMIER had thrown down, and played with it as only *The Times* can play. What matter that on the 11th of December last they had exclaimed that we must even destroy Peking, palace by palace and house by house, "until we obtain our countrymen's release or absolute proof that they are beyond human aid?"—what matter that on the 17th of the same month they declared that "while there is yet no positive proof of death, there is strong probability of life?" Now though the case is not changed, their view of it is altered, and so we are told that "there is no kindness in nursing by encouragement a fond illusion." We are not to withhold our sympathy for Major BRABAZON'S distress, but at the same time we shall do well to avoid sharing his credulity. All has been done that can be done; it is better that the matter should be allowed to rest. This is the gist of *The Times'* article, which our readers will find in another portion of this paper. We dissent altogether from the arguments of the writer and from the conclusion to which he arrives. It may be hoping against hope to suppose that Captain BRABAZON is yet alive, but we have a right to demand a full investigation of each circumstance connected with his supposed death, and an explanation of the strange facts which were so clearly brought forward by General PEEL. Why was not the canal dragged into which the body of the unfortunate officer was said to have been thrown?—what steps were taken between the 15th Oct., when the last prisoner was returned, and the 26th October, which was the date of Lord ELGIN'S despatch on the subject?—how does it come to pass that the British troops were for ten days in the neighbourhood of the spot where the tragedy is said to have occurred, and yet they heard nothing about it?—how is the discrepancy of dates in the despatches to be accounted for?—why should the two Europeans said to have been beheaded necessarily have been Captain BRABAZON and the ABBE DE LUC, since at that very time an English soldier and a French prisoner were both missing; and finally, what steps did Lord ELGIN take to test the validity of the report to which he refers in his despatch? Far, indeed, are we from wishing to nurse "a fond illusion," but we do say that these questions should be fully answered before the subject ceases to attract the public attention. We are not convinced that every available step was taken at the time, or has been taken since, and we believe that almost every Englishman interested in China is as dissatisfied as we are. It may be too late to hope that Captain BRABAZON will be restored to his friends, it is not too late to demand a more searching inquiry than has as yet been made into all the circumstances of his loss.

THE RUSSIANS AT THE COURT OF PEKING.

SOME further particulars have lately transpired concerning the new Treaty between Russia and China, which at least serve to throw a peculiar light on the policy of Russia with regard to her neighbours in the East. It appears by recent advices received from St. Petersburg that the Treaty drawn up and signed by the then Governor-General of East Siberia, Count Murawieff-Amoorsky—who has lately resigned this important office—though duly executed by the two respective plenipotentiaries as far back as August, 1858, had never been ratified by the Emperor of China, who in spite of urgent and repeated remonstrances had always found some plausible pretext for deferring it from day to day till November last, when the Emperor, panic-struck at the rapid approach of the British and French forces to his capital, fairly fled for safety to the wilds and deserts of Mongolia, leaving his brother, Prince Kung, to act with the delegated imperial authority. It was mainly in consequence of the success of the Allies that Prince Kung implored the mediation of General Ignatieff, and was so importunate as to go to him in person no less than four different times to solicit his friendly offices to stave off the impending danger of the capital of the empire being either burned or pillaged. But the Russian Ambassador was in no hurry to comply with the request, and seizing the favourable opportunity to secure first the interests of his own country, he agreed to act the part of mediator, but required as a preliminary *conditio sine qua non*, the immediate ratification of the Russian Treaty, which had been waiting for that act for more than two years. This was done, and the result is well known. Prince Kung expressed the deepest gratitude to General Ignatieff for the important services he rendered to China as mediator, and in many subsequent documents, such as proclamations, letters of safe conduct, and various ordinances, invariably gave him the flattering epithet of "Saviour of the country."

The Russian *Journal of the Academy* lately published a lengthy article, giving a detailed history of the various fruitless attempts at negotiation made by Russia during the last hundred and fifty years, and now finally crowned with success. It is true that within the last ten years Russia has concluded several treaties with China and Japan, but they were mere copies or paraphrases of those made by other countries, and were therefore not adapted to secure for her any exclusive or even preponderating advantages. The ports of China and Japan were opened to the Russian flag as well as to that of other nations, but as the Russians are by no means a great maritime nation, the concession was not of much importance, as the immense extent of their own country sufficed for the limited speculations of the not over-enterprising merchants of Russia. Under these circumstances the object of Government was not so much to awaken a love of maritime enterprise, as to increase the national predilection for land traffic, clear away existing obstacles, and open up new regions for the exercise and development of this their favourite branch of commerce. This was completely obtained by the Treaty of Peking, whilst that of Tien-tsin may be considered both as an anomaly and an anachronism, for on the one hand it permitted the Russian merchants to export tea from Chinese ports, whilst on the other hand they were prohibited from importing that article of merchandise into Russia, such privilege being exclusively enjoyed by the Russian American Company, and that, too, only to a very limited extent to favour the land trade over the frontiers at Kiachta.

The Treaty of Peking has, it is true, not opened any new ports of China to Russian commerce, but it has greatly improved and extended the overland traffic, whilst it cannot be doubted that the permission granted to Russian merchants to establish themselves at Peking will not fail to facilitate and increase the commerce between the two countries by land, to a very considerable extent. Other commodities besides tea—such as silk, spices, and drugs—will now become articles of export over the land frontiers, whilst Russia will also be able to compete successfully with other nations in supplying Mongolia and Mantschuria with goods and merchandise, which were hitherto drawn from China at great expense and loss of time. At the same time the inconsiderable retail trade of Russia on the frontiers cannot fail to receive a favourable impulse, and, above all, the stipulated session of territory on the Amoor and Ussouri has added to the Russian dominions a vast tract of country, containing no less than a million of square versts. This increase of territory, however, would not be of so much consequence as it really is, if it were not accompanied by the possession of the great water-way through the heart of the country to the coast, and of the coast itself, which now gives Russia unlimited access to the Pacific Ocean just opposite the important empire of Japan. Siberia has hitherto been prevented, by her geographical position, from attaining to any great degree of development, but the Treaty of Peking now forms the convenient bridge to civilisation and traffic on the Pacific, by which Russia obtains an unchallenged entrance into the great human network of the commerce of the world.

THE STRAITS TRANSFER QUESTION.

WE now proceed to comment further on the contents of the pamphlet forwarded to the Colonial Secretary. In the first place we shall give the scheme for the establishment needed for the several stations of the new colony verbatim; and after a few remarks on the remaining suggestions in the pamphlet, we shall conclude with a scheme of our own, based on the opinions expressed in the document under consideration, and on the statements made by our contemporaries in the Straits.

SCHEME FOR ESTABLISHMENTS PROPOSED BY THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE PAMPHLET.

	Per Annum. £	s.	d.
Governor, &c.	4,185	0	0
Private Secretary and A.D.C.	405	0	0
Colonial Secretary	999	0	0
Surveyor-General, &c.	850	10	0
Colonial-Surgeon, &c.	850	10	0
Local—Penang—			
Lieut.-Gov., &c.	1,809	0	0
Comr. of Police	891	0	0
Deputy do.	499	10	0
Police Magistrate	850	10	0
District do., &c.	742	10	0
Surveyor, &c.	499	10	0
Executive Engineer, &c.	810	0	0
Harbour-Master, &c.	594	0	0
Surgeon	594	0	0
District do.	499	10	0
Chaplain	742	10	0
Recorder	2,025	0	0
Attorney-General, &c.	999	0	0
Registrar, do.	999	0	0
English interpreter of Chinese	742	10	0
Com. of C. of R.	351	0	0
Sheriff	351	0	0
Coroner	270	0	0
Student Interpreter	351	0	0
Total	14,620	10	0
Expenses, &c.	8,000	0	0
Political Pensions	3,199	0	0
Total	£25,819	0	0
Local—Singapore—			
L. Governor, &c.	1,809	0	0
Treasurer, &c.	999	0	0
Ex. Eng.	891	0	0
Comr. of Police	1,215	0	0
P. Magistrate	891	0	0
District do.	810	0	0
D. Comr. of Police	499	10	0
Surveyor, &c.	449	10	0
Postmaster	594	0	0
Har.-Master, &c.	594	0	0
Assistant do.	405	0	0
Surgeon	702	0	0
Chaplain	742	10	0
C. Justice	2,565	0	0
P. Judge	1,809	0	0
Attorney-General	1,215	0	0
Registrar, do.	1,215	0	0
Two Chief Clerks	1,080	0	0
Interpreter	742	10	0
C. Court of R.	594	0	0
Sheriff	445	10	0
Coroner	351	0	0
Two Interpreters	702	0	0
	21,370	10	0
Estimates, &c.	15,000	0	0
Pensions, &c.	3,231	0	0
	£39,601	0	0
For Malacca—			
L. Gov.	1,512	0	0
Police Magistrate	702	0	0
Surgeon	594	0	0
Surveyor, &c.	499	10	0
Student Interpreter	351	0	0
Chaplain	499	10	0
Registrar	594	0	0
Sheriff	251	2	0
	£5,003	2	0
Expense of Establishments, &c.	2,700	0	0
Local Pensions	773	0	0
Land Annuities	1,631	0	0
Total	£10,107	2	0

A few remarks appear necessary on the whole subject of revenue. It is perfectly clear that the financial resources of the Straits are fully adequate to pay all necessary expenses, leaving a large balance in favour of the Colonial Exchequer. We cannot admit that the naval and military expenditure should be paid from the local revenue. To her Majesty's navy and army must be deputed the duty of protecting our trade; and the Straits Settlements especially, as an emporium of trade for the Far East, is peculiarly a British colony, and should undoubtedly be defended by the Home Government. The charges for troops need not be large, as the colony could be used as a sanatarium for our forces in India and China: convalescents, with the addition of a few effective men on each station, would be ample for self-protection, and the performance of the ordinary duties required of them in peaceful times.

The proposal to raise a local corps is simply absurd, and falls to the ground at once. In India, where the climate is inimical to the European constitution, native troops appear necessary, but in the Straits there is no necessity to have any but English soldiers. No local steamer is required for the conveyance of the governor, &c. Advantage could always be taken of the mail steamers to convey officials to and from the several ports of the colony. In the event of the governor wishing to pay a visit to any of the native States, he should be conveyed thither in a man-of-war. The suggestion regarding the appointment of European Chinese students is a wise one; there should be at least six sent out to form the nucleus of a colonial service from which all the civil authorities might eventually be selected. The remarks on the currency, telegraphs, &c., are also most judicious.

The receipts and disbursements of the Straits, according to the pamphlet, are:—

	Receipts.		Disbursements.
Singapore	£92.965	.....	£39,601
Penang	36,480	.....	18,530
Malacca	16,907	.....	10,107. 2
General	...	.....	7,289
	£146,352		£75,527. 2

Leaving a balance of £70,824. 18s. in favour of the Straits. We would advise the deportation of all the convicts from the Straits to the penal settlement at Port Blair. We believe that all the labour at present performed by them would be more economically done by free labour under a strict contract, and the supervision of the executive engineer. The presence of such a vast number of felons is demoralising in the extreme; and as a matter of political economy alone, it would be better that the refuse of India should be consorted with their companions at the Andamans, than that they should be thrown among a numerous population of comparatively honest citizens, like the Chinese and Malays of the Straits Settlements.

The amount of salaries in the London scheme we do not consider on the whole too high, but we do think some of the appointments unnecessary. We have observed before that the question should not be regarded in an economical point of view alone; the welfare of the colony is of the highest importance, and therefore a staff of well-paid (not extravagantly paid) officials would be more conducive to the end in view than badly

paid establishments. The scheme of one of our contemporaries we think visionary and niggardly in the extreme. His principle of centralisation would not succeed in practice, and we therefore must condemn such appointments as Postmasters-General, Commissioners-General of Police, &c., &c. We believe that the system of government prevailing in the Straits is the best that can be devised, for such a peculiarly constituted colony (territorially considered); the only improvement we think necessary would be to make the Resident Councillers or Lieutenant-Governors more independent, so as to relieve the Governor-General of much unnecessary labour, thereby affording the latter functionary more time to visit the various native States in the Malay peninsula, Borneo, and adjacent islands frequently. Such a procedure would, we feel sure, materially increase the trade of the colony and enhance the *prestige* of our country among the inhabitants of the Eastern Archipelago. To the present settlements we would add Labuan, and Sarawak too, if Sir James Brooke is still willing to consign his province to the British Government, and we would constitute the new Governor the first Governor-General of our possessions in the Eastern Archipelago.

We would have a Legislative Council in each settlement for the framing of bye-laws, for the convenience of the public, suitable to each place; but the civil and penal codes should emanate from Parliament alone. The Supreme Court of Judicature in the Straits administers justice by the laws of England at this moment, so that there is no difficulty on that point to contend with.

Our scheme for the heads of the establishments necessary for the good government of the colony, is as follows; it is based on the opinions of old residents and the opinions thrown out by the local press:—

Governor-General, M. L. C.	£4,500
For entertainment	1,000
This sum to be at the disposal of the Lieut.-Governor in the absence of the G.G. for the entertainment of British and Foreign Visitors of Rank.	
Private Secretary and A.D.C. to the G.G.	600
Singapore.	
Lieut.-Governor of, and Colonial Secretary, M.L.C.	1,800
Colonial Treasurer, President of Municipal Commissioners, M.L.C.	1,000
Asst.-Colonial Treasurer	400
Chief Justice, M.L.C.	2,400
Puisne Judge, M.L.C.	1,800
Registrar of the Court of Judicature, M.L.C.	1,000
Attorney-General and Public Prosecutor with private practice	500
Sheriff	500
Coroner	250
Commissioner of Police	700
Chief Police Magistrate	1000
Asst.-Magistrate and Marine Magistrate	800
Commissioner of Court of Requests, with extended jurisdiction	600
Colonial Surgeon, with private practice	500
Assistant do. with do.	250
Supt. of Lands and Surveyor-General of Singapore	700
Colonial Chaplain, Executive Engineer (under military expenditure.)	
Postmaster	600
Master Attendant Registrar of Exports and Imports, and Collector of Light Dues	600
Harbour Master	300
Shipping Master	400
Penang and Province Wellesley.	
Lieut.-Gov., Colonial Treasurer, Supt. of Lands, M.L.C., Commissioner of Police	2000
Asst.-Treasurer and Colonial Secretary, M.L.C.	600
Recorder, M.L.C.	2000
Registrar of the Court of Judicature, M.L.C.	800
Police Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests	800
Sheriff	500
Coroner	200
Commissioner of Police	600
Executive Engineer, Colonial Chaplain (under military expenditure)	
Colonial Surgeon with private practice	250
Surveyor-General	400
Attorney-General and Public Prosecutor with private practice	300
Master Attendant of Marine Magistrate, Postmaster, Registrar of Exports and Imports	600
Wellesley, Province	
Magistrate and Coroner	600
Deputy Commissioner of Police, Magistrate, Coroner	500
Malacca.	
Lieutenant Governor, Colonial Treasurer, Superintendent of Lands, &c., M.L.C.	1500
Assistant Treasurer and Colonial Secretary, M.L.C.	600
Police Magistrate, Coroner	700
Executive Engineer and Chaplain (under military expenditure).	
Colonial Surgeon with private practice	200
(This amount may be allowed the Military Surgeon of the Station.)	
Registrar of the Court of Judicature, M.L.C.	700
Surveyor-General	500
	£36,550

The disbursements by our scheme would leave a balance of £109,802 for establishments and other charges; a sum more than sufficient to defray all expenses. This surplus may be considerably increased by charging trifling fees for the documents supplied by the various Government officers, which are now issued at some expense free of charge.

THE COLONY OF HONG KONG.

This prosperous colony is every day advancing in importance, and it may interest our readers to give them a variety of well-attested facts, by way of illustrating the progress it has made during the last few years. Our survey may as well commence with the year 1854, when, in consequence of the disturbed state of the adjacent provinces, the Chinese began to settle in the colony and to open up the coasting trade. In that year the population rose from 39,000 to 56,000, in 1855 it reached 72,900, and at the close of last year the exact return of population amounted to 94,917, of which number 92,441 were Chinamen by birth. It is a sad and serious fact, however, that of this large number only 17,251 are females. The mortality amongst the Chinese in the country districts of Hong Kong is now about 2 per cent., but in the city of Victoria it is not more than ½ per cent. A few years since the rate was much higher than this. Of the mortality amongst the Europeans and Americans we are unable at present to furnish any data.

In order to show the importance of Hong Kong as a commercial port, we may mention that on the 31st of December last, 133 merchant vessels were at anchor in the harbour, together with upwards of 2,000 lorchas, junks, and other native craft. In the different bays of Hong Kong hundreds of fishing and other boats might be seen lying at the same time. Our readers will see, therefore, that there is no lack of activity in the harbour and on the shores of Hong Kong. Another proof of this activity will be found in the exports of British manufacture and produce, which amounted in 1860 to £2,506,579. The total amount of produce exported to China in the year was valued at £5,318,428, being more than the exports to France, including Algeria and Bourbon. There is no Custom House at Hong Kong, neither are there any statistics from which we can accurately estimate the amount of trade carried on; but it has been truly said that "this barren and unhealthy rock is now the seat and centre, the directing and controlling place round which the vast commerce of the China seas is gathered. Here are the principal banking establishments, here may be said to be the intelligence and the concentrated wealth of the largest commercial establishments in the Oriental world." The revenue of Hong Kong during the past year amounted to £94,182—being an increase, as compared with the previous year, of £28,957. This sum, however, must not be regarded as a permanent increase since a large proportion arose from sales of land.

The increase of revenue has been chiefly under the following heads—viz., Land Revenue, Opium License, Post Office (which formerly was an Imperial institution), Police Rates, and Fees on Shipping Seamen, which latter amounted in the year to £1,751. 13s. 4d. = $8,408; and, as the fee is still, we believe, one dollar on every seaman shipped, the amount of dollars will represent the number of seamen shipped through the agency of the harbour master; some items, such as licenses to pawnbrokers, salt and stone farms, have been abolished; and we should be more pleased with the returns now under review did they not show that "Ordinance No. 12 of 1857" was made a source of revenue.

The expenditure during the year has been £72,390. 12s. 10d. of which £19,782. 16s. 8d. is for public works, chiefly under the head of Roads, Streets, &c. The surplus on the year, therefore, is £21,792. 3s. 5d.

The revenue collected is as near as possible £1 per head, whilst the expenditure was at the same rate as the previous year—viz., 15s. 2½d. per head. This includes all taxes except those which the community imposes on itself by voluntary contributions, such as just now the erection of a watch tower and a sailors' home, to which latter two brothers, partners in one of the eminent firms, have each, on leaving China, contributed $10,000, whilst, for the former, a member of a like firm has given the ground, situated in the most central and valuable part of the city.

The public works, constructed by the Civil Government, up to the close of last year, have cost rather more than one quarter of a million pounds sterling, whilst the military and naval authorities have also spent large sums for similar purposes; and it may perhaps surprise some of our readers that during the five years,

1853—57, fortifications and military defences cost £13,730, whilst barracks cost only £516, or £103. 4s. per annum. The total amount of naval and military charges during these five years amounted to £589, 636 of which, however, a little more than the moiety; was incurred during 1857, the average annual expenditure for these two services during the four previous year having been £73,550.

Amongst the principal public works now carried on by the Civil Government, are the supply of water for the town, and the completion of the "Bowring Praya," an undertaking which for years had met with rather strong and obstinate opposition, but of which the benefit to the Colony seems now at last generally acknowledged. The introduction of gas will, we suppose, soon add to the comfort of the inhabitants of the island. Of the greatest importance to the landholders in Hong Kong is the cession of the peninsular of Kowloong, the shore of which forms the northern side of the harbour, and the possession of which became desirable, if not absolutely necessary, for more than one reason. Its acquisition had been advocated in the early part of 1857, and seems to have been afterwards supported by the Governor, Sir John Bowring, and the Colonial Secretary.

The last land sales in Hong Kong, which took place in December and January last, have shown that as yet the possession of this dependency has not depreciated land in the colony, in fact, lots then sold brought higher premiums than similar ones sold five years ago. The formation of a royal navy yard will no doubt be undertaken before long. The events occurring in the Far East, with the Russians on one side and the French on the other, and a rapidly extending commerce with all parts of the world, tend to make Hong Kong one of the most important of naval stations. The claims of the military authorities for localities on this new acquisition cannot be so extensive, as they possess some of the finest parts of Victoria. Still last mail informs us that they have sent in estimates for £160,000 to be spent on Kowloong, a sum no doubt they will realise by the sale of their property in Victoria, and thus would meet the requirements of the community for more space, by their removal to the opposite shore.

We have heard some fears expressed that property in Victoria will depreciate in consequence of this acquisition; but we believe that these fears are without foundation. As the trade in the East increases in all directions, Hong Kong will assuredly gain in a political point of view, and there can be no question that, as China becomes more accessible to Europeans, the colony will reap the highest commercial advantages, and will, at the same time, influence the spread of civilisation more than any of the open ports.

NEW STEAMERS FOR CHINA.

Of the four companies which have been proposed for running steamers on the coast and rivers of China only one has at present been announced as complete in its preliminary arrangements. The company is styled the "China and Japan (Coast and River) Steam Navigation Company." For farther particulars we refer our readers to the prospectus in our advertising columns.

With the direction and officers of the company there is every guarantee for the successful management of matters on this side. The shareholders have a great advantage in the experience possessed by the members of the firm of Messrs. Robertson and Co., the marine superintendents, all of whom have had long experience in the China waters as commanders of vessels in the first employs; and if equally competent persons are selected to manage the affairs of the company on the other side, there can be no doubt as to it being a profitable investment for the public. Of the opening for steamers in China and Japan there is no doubt. We observe a most refreshing feature in the prospectus, and that is the entire absence of any arguments that the undertaking *must* yield some extraordinary and absurd rate of interest, which, in these days, tend very much to weaken public confidence. We must notice, however, that the information regarding the proposed traffic is too meagre; and some facts and figures on this head will be required by investors, which the directors, no doubt, are prepared to give. It is not stated, but we presume the River Yang-tze-Keang will be the first and most important field of operations. We expect to see the shares speedily subscribed for, as the undertaking is very favourably spoken of on the Stock Exchange. We shall not be surprised to see another similiar undertaking brought forward, the intelligence by the present mail from China being calculated to stimulate such enterprise.

Spirit of the Press.

THE FATE OF CAPTAIN BRABAZON.

It is painful to go back again upon the circumstances which attended the ultimate success of the army that advanced to Peking. Very seldom in the chronicle of conquest have such decisive effects been attained at so small a cost of human life. But the interest of every tragic story lies in its details. The news of a great shipwreck, or of a mighty earthquake, or of a vast slaughter, told as a simple fact, does not excite the same thrill as the sufferings of a single prisoner in whom we have a personal interest; and we can even now recur to the histories of aggregate destruction with a calmer judgment than we can canvass the fate of those Englishmen who were kidnapped by the faithless Chinese, and who were tortured to death by a weak and cruel enemy. Happily, the story is for the most part made so plain that every one must be satisfied there is no more to be known. In every instance but two, the bodies have been recovered, and we can rest upon the certainty that, with these two exceptions, the graveyard of the Cathedral in Peking contains all that now exists of our friends and countrymen. Of these two exceptions there is one case in which the proof is not demonstrative that the captive is actually dead. It is somewhat like the case of Sir John Franklin, wherein for so many years all the weight of probabilities was counterpoised in the public mind by any light possibility which might be suggested. Hoping against hope, the relations of Captain Brabazon refuse to believe that this officer is certainly dead. His body has never been recovered. No European saw his death. All that we think we know of his fate depends upon Chinese testimony, which we believe to be of little worth. Therefore, say sanguine friends, founding the basis of their hopes on their affections, he may still be alive among the Tartars in the North, or even among the Chinese at Peking. He was an artillery officer, and he may have been kept concealed in order to teach the Chinese the secret of those tremendous guns which created such havoc at such impossible distances. Imagination, quickened by affection, may easily fancy a thousand reasons why a barbarous enemy should desire to retain in his possession the living repository of all those secrets which had just worked so fearfully against him. All these points of possibility were put last night in the House of Commons by General Peel and Mr. Gregory, speaking on behalf of the father of this much regretted officer. There is no kindness in nursing by encouragement a fond illusion. No man who with cool judgment reviews the evidence can doubt that Captain Brabazon is dead. The tale told by the Chinese is entirely consistent with all the circumstances of the time, and with all the habits of an Eastern people. That story is, that Captain Brabazon and his companion were being led in captivity through the Tartar camp, that the Tartar soldiers were then gathering after a defeat, and that their leader was wounded to the death. We are told that the general, in the moment of his despair, came upon these two prisoners, and ordered them to be beheaded. This is what would almost certainly have happened under the circumstances stated. There is no reason to doubt that it did so happen. If we reject this account we must make for ourselves some more plausible hypothesis. That which is suggested is that the Chinese have spirited this officer away, and have taken his companion with him as an interpreter. The latter suggestion is absurd, for the Chinese well know that there are thousands of Chinamen speaking Canton English who would make much more trustworthy interpreters than a French Abbé, whose knowledge both of Chinese and English would be much less perfect than that of a "teacher," or even a Chinese servant from Hong Kong. The Abbé Luc could have been of no use to the Chinese. As to the suggestion that Captain Brabazon has been secreted for the purpose of teaching the Chinese troops, the notion is scarcely consistent with the character of the people, and it is nearly incredible that in a country like China, where anything may be obtained for money, a prisoner could be kept in such complete seclusion as to render it impossible for him to communicate the fact of his existence. He must be surrounded by men all of whom would know how valuable such a secret would be. He has been sought for alike by English and by Russian authorities. If he were detained to work, his opportunities of communication must have been frequent. What, then, is there to impeach the only account we have received? We confess we can see nothing deserving any weight. What we have heard seems to be consistent with all the probabilities; what we imagine seems to be inconsistent with any. It is very undesirable that this hopeless hope, which is so respectable when we see it actuating a near relative, should take hold of the public mind, and be pursued as a morbid fancy. So long as Major Brabazon doubts the death of his son he has a right to claim every assistance which our diplomacy can give him in order to remove those doubts. It is not probable indeed, that any efforts will obtain for him the satisfaction of recovering the body from the heap in which it has long since ceased to be distinguishable, and it is, as we think, impossible that he should ever attain the object of finding his son alive. Still, however, every one will desire to help him, and every one will sympathize with him in his search. But let us sympathize with him as a father engaged in a fond and hopeless quest, not as sharing his credulity without the all-sufficient excuse of parental affection. —*The Times.*

THE END OF THE CHINA WARS.

The confidence expressed by Lord Elgin, that we are now done with Chinese wars, will evoke a general response in the hopes of the country. As the soldier has returned his sword to the scabbard, and the diplomatist laid his pen on the shelf, so far as China is concerned, the occasion was not unsuitable to such a review of this Chinese question as the noble lord laid before his auditory. With the matter of his statement there is but little fault to find; with the manner none at all. It was, indeed, in the best tone and spirit, and the modest yet unextenuated appreciation of his own services came with a good grace from Lord Elgin. We have never been at any pains to conceal our dislike of the diplomatic system generally, for we believe it to have been upon the whole injurious rather than beneficial to the country; but if all our representatives abroad were like the subject of the present remarks, the character of the service would have stood as high as is compatible with

standing system of influence and interference in the affairs of other nations. Lord Elgin did not make the Chinese difficulty, and if it be really removed, his must be the praise of having done more than any other man to accomplish that end. Utterly condemning as unwarranted and unjustifiable the conduct of the British agents at Hong Kong and Canton, who, five years ago, with the support and approval of the Home Government, committed a violent aggression on the Chinese, and laid the causes from which the subsequent wars inevitably rose, we still recognise the value of the services of him to whose hands was committed the direct conduct of our iniquitous quarrel. Lord Elgin was animated by very different sentiments from those of the Governor of Hong Kong and of the Consul at Canton. If the instructions he received from home enjoined moderation and discretion, as well as firmness, the noble diplomatist may be said to have improved upon them. The admonitory voice which addressed him on that Sunday morning at the door of Mr. Spurgeon's chapel, before his departure for the East, seems to have found an already living response in the recesses of his own heart. There can be no doubt at all of Lord Elgin having undertaken this mission with a deep sense of the responsibility attached to it, and that sense, united with broad views of the true interests of England in China, with a spirit of moderation, with judgment and a humane feeling, has been so far successful as to have restrained to comparatively narrow limits of calamity the fearful disasters of a protracted war which were foreboded. It was a pity that Lord Elgin should have had to leave China after his first mission, and before the ratifications of the Treaty of Tien-tsin were exchanged; for although the Hon. Mr. Bruce is of his blood, he is not of his judgment. We cannot blame the noble Lord for abstaining from expressing disapproval of his brother's rashness at the mouth of the Peiho, while we remember that the Foreign Secretary endorsed it, contrary to instructions as it was, and wantonly provocative of worse complications than ever. But the greatest fear that weighs at the present moment — the most intrusive consideration, weakening those hopes of continuance of peace and friendly relations between this country and China — lies in the fact that the Hon. Mr. Bruce is now at Tien-tsin, the British Plenipotentiary to the Court of the Chinese Emperor. So far as to what has passed, and as to Lord Elgin's share in those events. That statesman has in view great prospective advantages both to the East and West, from bringing China within the family of nations, and so opening up general intercourse between the people of that empire and of Europe. This is the sort of progression that every well-wisher of the human race must ardently desire to see promoted. It is by this extension of mutual knowledge of each other, and this binding of people together by the chains of a common interest which commerce supplies, that the reign of true civilisation and lasting peace on earth is to be brought about, if ever. Lord Elgin has a right to enforce those views; for, although he has carried war to the gates of Peking, and there dictated a peace, the terms of which, how moderate soever, could not be grateful to the ruler of China, yet this his lordship was, under the circumstances, compelled to do, and it is his chief merit that he did it in the least offensive manner possible. The spirit of his diplomacy shows that at heart he must have felt distrust of the means forced upon him to open the way to that humanising beneficial intercourse he looks forward to. Wars of aggression, undertaken without the shadow of a pretext of justification, but, on the contrary, like this which originated in the Lorcha affair, with every circumstance of falsehood and arrogance on the part of the assailant, are not just the instrumentalities for uniting nations in a friendly intercourse. However desirable such intercourse, it is not to be forced. Lord Elgin knows this as well as anyone, and we confidently expect that the influence which he is destined to exercise on the conduct of affairs will be directed against that sort of policy in the East or elsewhere which it was for him to make as innocuous in China as the vice of its original conception permitted.—*Morning Star.*

London Gazettes.

The Queen has been pleased to give and grant unto Major-General Sir James Hope Grant, G.C.B., having the local rank of Lieut.-General in the East Indies and China, and late commanding her Majesty's Land Forces in China, her Majesty's Royal Licence and Permission that he may accept and wear the Insignia of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honour of the 2nd Class, which his Majesty the Emperor of the French hath been pleased to confer upon him for his distinguished services before the enemy during the late combined British and French operations in China.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Alexander Perceval and Angus Fletcher, Esqrs., to be members of the Legislative Council of the colony of Hong Kong; also Daniel William Blyth, Esq., to be Master Attendant of Galle, in the Island of Ceylon.

A DOG FROM CHINA.—At the plunder of the Imperial Palace of Yuen-ming-yuen a little dog was found by Captain Dunne, 99th Regiment, who brought it home by the last mail from China. It is supposed to have belonged to the Empress, or one of the ladies of the Imperial family, and is considered one of the smallest and by far the most beautiful little animal that has ever appeared in England. Her Majesty having been graciously pleased to accept the dog, it now forms one of the Royal collection of dogs.

Another letter has appeared on the subject of student interpreters, complaining that the newly-entered students at the universities are to be placed on the same footing as those who have been studying for years at King's College.

AT the next meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, on May 13, the following paper will be read:—"Journey from Yedo into the Interior of the Island of Niphon, and Ascent of the Volcano of Fusigama," by Mr. Rutherford Alcock, her Majesty's minister at Japan; communicated through Sir Roderick Murchison.

Dr. MacGowan has proceeded to Paris to repeat his lectures on China and Japan, and Monsieur Montigny, late Consul at Shanghai, has procured the free entry of all articles used in his illustrations.

Literature.

In the "Dublin University Magazine" for the present month there is an article on China, taking the side of the Taepings and opposing the views advocated in the last number of "The British Quarterly."—A new series of tracts is announced for publication, apparently by the leaders or advocates of the Broad Church Party. The first is by Thomas Hughes, and is entitled "Religio Laici." The second, called "The Mote and the Beam, a Clergyman's Lessons from the Present Panic," by the Rev. F. D. Maurice, is in the press. Macmillan and Co. are the publishers of the series.—There is scarcely anything sadder than the announcement of the sale of a literary man's library. That the books which have been collected with care, and cherished like dear familiar friends, should be dispersed to the four winds by the hammer of the auctioneer is verily a thing to grieve over. This week the noble collection made by the late Richard Ford, of Exeter, was disposed of in this manner. Mr. Ford's "Handbook for Travellers in Spain" is well known, not only as the most useful work on the subject, but also as the wittiest guide-book that ever was written. It is a work for stay-at-home readers as well as for travellers in the Peninsula.—Mrs. (or, to speak correctly, Miss) Agnes Baillie, the well-known and well-beloved sister of the far-famed Joanna, died, a few days since, at her residence at Hampstead. It was the same house in which her sister had lived for many years and had received all the chief literati of the day. Joanna, it will be remembered, died in 1851, at the age of eighty-eight. Her sister was born in 1760 (nine years before Walter Scott, and ten years before Wordsworth), and was, consequently, more than a century old.—Mr. Nichol, of Edinburgh, announces a new edition of the Rev. George Gilfillan's "Library of the British Poets." Twelve volumes will be issued annually to subscribers at the cost of two guineas. The editorship of the edition is placed in the hands of Mr. Charles Cowden Clarke, the first and, perhaps, truest friend of Keats. It is passing strange that a man of his fine taste, and delicate appreciation of all that is noble and of good report in poetry, should be content to follow in the wake of such a critic as Gilfillan, whose biographies and notices are to be retained.—Mr. Money's work, entitled "Java; or, How to Manage a Colony," (Hurst and Blackett), has reached us, but the pressure on our space will not allow us to do it justice in the present number. In anticipation, however, of our review, we may say that Mr. Money writes like a man who has thoroughly investigated his subject in all its bearings. In very earnest words, and by the aid of a vast accumulation of facts, he vindicates the East Indian policy of the Dutch, and asserts the advantages accruing from the culture system as established by General van den Bosch in 1832.—A new and beautiful edition of Longfellow's poetical works has been issued in Bohn's "Illustrated Library." It is a complete and compact collection of the poems, and is charmingly illustrated by Birket Foster, John Gilbert, John Absolon, &c.—A new edition of Mr. Wingrove Cook's "China," with corrections and editions (Routledge and Co.), has just appeared. We shall not attempt to criticise a work which is so familiar to all readers. It has already taken a prominent place in Anglo-Chinese literature—a place from which it is not likely to be thrust by the investigations of future travellers. Everyone who wishes to understand our commercial position with regard to China, should make himself master of this volume. It is a book as pleasant for perusal as it is serviceable for reference.

By way of finale to our literary gossip, we may mention that the Emperor of all the Russias has sent to Mr. Atkinson a splendid emerald ring, set in diamonds, as a mark of the Imperial approbation of his work on "The Amoor." "This gift," says the *Athenæum*," is honourable to Mr. Atkinson as officially proving the accuracy of his delineation of Amoor scenery and life, and is creditable to the Emperor as proving that Mr. Atkinson's many strictures on the policy of Russia in the remote regions of Asia have been received at St. Petersburg in a liberal and candid spirit."

We have received Messrs. Cassell and Co.'s monthly instalment of periodical literature. The "Popular Natural History," "Illustrated History of England," "The Ladies' Treasury," and the "Illustrated Family Paper."—From Mr. S. O. Beeton we have to acknowledge the May number (a double one) of "The Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine," a very useful and apparently well-edited journal, containing several illustrations and a large amount of information of special value to ladies. "The Boys' Own Magazine," a cheap but capital monthly, has reached us from the same publisher.

BANQUET TO LORD ELGIN—*Continued from page* 257.

good understanding with the Chinese Government. With this view I persuaded not only my excellent friend and colleague Baron Gros, the Ambassador of the Emperor of the French, but also the Ambassadors of the United States and of Russia, who were not parties to the war, to join me in addressing a representation to the Court of Peking, asking that Court to send a Plenipotentiary to meet us at Shanghai for the purpose of adjusting all the differences then existing between China and our respective countries. Shanghai is at a very great distance from Peking. It is now, and even then was, a port open to foreigners, and therefore it was impossible to devise a proposition more conciliatory to the Chinese or more respectful towards the feelings and even the prejudices of their Government. The Chinese, however, not only rejected our proposal, but rejected it with contumely; and it was not till we reached Tien-tsin - whither, I must observe, we all, the representatives as well of the neutral as of the belligerent Powers, went together—that we were able to find a negotiator competent to treat with us. As soon as we found such a negotiator we made peace, concluding it with the most solemn sanctions possible. The Emperor of China, as we all know, influenced by the same evil counsellors who had dissuaded him from sending an Ambassador from Peking at our invitation, in the following year interposed obstacles to the carrying out of the treaty; and the consequence of his proceeding was that that great expedition was fitted out and sent from this country which has with such wonderful success and in so short a space of time put an end to and arranged all our difficulties with China at the capital of that great empire itself—(hear, hear). I am quite aware that this narrative, though I have endeavoured as much as possible to condense it, must appear rather tedious to you—("No!")—but I am very anxious that it should be understood in this country that we have not acted harshly or ungenerously towards the Chinese, that at every stage of our proceedings we offered reasonable terms of accommodation, and that we resorted to force only when the obstinate perversity of the Chinese drove us to that alternative. But I know that another question lies behind, which may be more interesting to many present than this review of the past. The question I refer to is this—What are the advantages that we are likely to derive from the new privileges and rights which we have obtained under our treaties with China? That, my Lord Mayor, no doubt opens a very wide field to speculation. If we can succeed in establishing friendly relations not only with the Government, but with the people of China—if we can persuade them to adopt some of our tastes and habits; for although they are very averse to change, they are not, like many other Oriental races, cut off from all communion with us by inveterate prejudices of caste;—if we can succeed, I say, in these objects, it is impossible to set limits to the amount of trade that is likely to grow up between two nations so industrious and so commercial—(hear, hear). But there is one particular advantage which may be expected to accrue from the establishment of the Queen's representative at Peking to which I wish to call your attention, because I think it has been remarkably illustrated by what has occurred very recently in Japan. You have probably observed that a very serious crime was a short time ago perpetrated in that country. An European, but not a British subject, was murdered under circumstances which leave at any rate a charge of culpable indifference upon the Japanese Government. Well, what followed? Our Minister, acting, as it appears to me, with excellent judgment, retired to a short distance from the capital. He did not threaten war, but threatened what we understand in Europe by the phrase a "suspension of diplomatic relations." And, if our former experience of China is any guide to us, I think we may conclude with absolute certainty that such a menace, if it had been made at an outport to a subordinate functionary, would not have produced any effect whatever. That functionary would probably have written to the Supreme Government to say that he had kicked the barbarian out of his town—(a laugh)—and have claimed all manner of rewards for inflicting on him this defeat by diplomacy or force. But Mr. Alcock was at the capital, in relations with the Supreme Government; and that Government, seeing the danger, and having power to act, immediately took alarm at this menace, and accordingly within the space of a week, I think, or at least a very few days, this Government, who, when I negotiated a treaty with them, talked of the residence of a Minister at Yedo as one of the greatest calamities which could possibly befall them, came forward and implored our Minister to go back, offering him at the same time any guarantees for the future which he chose to demand. I am quite aware that there is a very great difference between Peking and Yedo, and that the advisers of the Emperor of China are not such intelligent persons as the advisers of the Emperor of Japan. But I feel very confident that this threat of a suspension of diplomatic relations will have the same effect, as a preventive of war and a preservative of peace, at the Chinese capital as recent events seem to show it has had at the Japanese—(cheers.) My Lord Mayor, I should be very much to blame if, having an opportunity of addressing an assembly in this place, I omitted to call attention to the fact that the occasional misconduct of our own countrymen and other foreigners in China is one of the greatest, perhaps the very greatest, difficulties with which the Queen's representatives there have to deal—(hear.) We send out to that country honourable merchants and devout missionaries, who scatter benefits in every part of the land they visit, elevating and raising the standard of civilisation wherever they go. But sometimes, unfortunately, there slip out from among us dishonest traders and ruffians who disgrace our name and set the feelings of the people against us—(hear, hear.) The public opinion of England can do much to encourage the one class of persons and discourage the other. I trust that the moral influence of this great city will always be exerted in that direction—(hear, hear). In addressing the merchants of Shanghai some three years ago, at the time when I announced to them that it was my intention to seek a treaty in Peking itself if I could not get it before I arrived there, I made this observation,—that when force and diplomacy should have effected in China all that they could legitimately accomplish, the work which we had to do in that empire would still be only in its commencement—(hear). I repeat that statement now. My gallant friend who spoke just now has returned his sword to the scabbard. The diplomatist, as far as treaty-making is concerned, has placed his pen on the shelf. But the great task of construction—the task of bringing China, with its extensive territory, its fertile soil, and its industrious population, as an active and useful member, into the community of nations, and making it a fellow-labourer with ourselves in diffusing over the world happiness and well-being—is one that yet remains to be accomplished. No persons are more entitled or more fitted to take a part in that work than the merchants of this great city. I implore them, then, to devote themselves earnestly to its fulfilment, and from the bo tom of my heart I pray that their endeavours towards that end may be crowned with success—(loud cheers).

THE CAMPAIGN IN CHINA. — We mentioned in our last number, that Mr. Hogarth, of the Haymarket, was about to publish a series of sketches drawn by Lieut.-Col. Hope Crealock, during the recent campaign in China. Since we wrote we have seen the sketches, which were exhibited to a select public on Saturday last. The vigour of the drawing is marvellous, nothing could be more life-like and effective. In all there are thirty-two sketches, which are to be published in a portfolio, or the plates can be procured separately. The history of the Campaign is as it were detailed for us in these sketches. A few bold strokes serve to tell a long story. Such a supplement to the letters of an "Own Correspondent" and to official despatches, cannot be too highly prized.

MESSRS. LOCH AND WADE.—The *Observer* states that the Queen has expressed her gracious intention to confer the Companionship of the Bath (civil side) upon Mr. Henry Loch, private secretary of Lord Elgin in his late mission to China; and Mr. Thomas Wade, Chinese secretary to the mission at Shanghai, who acted as chief interpreter during the late expedition.

Monetary and Commercial.

In consequence of the American civil war, and consequent stoppage of the important trade with this country, business has been much affected, and the improved condition of the general exports, as shown by the Board of Trade Returns for March, will be materially checked. The exports to China and the Far East from Great Britain will not be interrupted, but the direct trade, both import and export, between the United States and China will be liable to the same serious interruption. It is feared that a series of failures will result, similar to that of 1857–8. On this subject the *Money Market Review* says:—

"It will afford some idea of the depreciation which has occurred in the New York stock market if we state that Virginia Dollar Six per Cents., which about ten days ago were quoted 70, now come quoted 36. In London the price to-day was 43 to 47. The London prices are in nearly all instances much above those current at New York. The American quotations, for example, are equal to 46 dis. for Illinois Central shares, and 16½ for New York and Erie, whilst in London this afternoon the prices were respectively 40 to 39½ dis. and 18½ to 19. This difference is calculated to bring shares over. In some quarters the apprehension is expressed that the English market may be deluged with American stocks. Should the Americans make up their minds to sacrifice them at low prices, English investors will probably absorb them, and wait for the result of the present conflict. A vast number of English buyers are watching for the best opportunity of operating."

Considering the great importance of the American civil war, the funds have been fairly supported. Consols have ruled at 91½ to ⅞. The rate of discount at the Bank of England remains at 5 per cent., and the demand during the past few days has shown a marked increase, anticipatory of a rise in the rate.

A deputation on the subject of the Canton claims had an interview with Lord John Russell at the Foreign-office. The deputation was introduced by Mr. R. W. Crawford, M.P., Mr. S. Gregson, M.P., Sir James Matheson, Bart., M.P., Mr. Moffatt, M.P., and Mr. Buchanan, M.P. The deputation consisted of Messrs. Charles Magniac, Thomas Dent, Hamilton Lindsay, Harry Gordon, Edward Pereira, W. How, T. Jones Gibb, William Vacher, and G. G. Macpherson. The deputation urged that the delay which had occurred in the settlements of these claims was very unreasonable, and the argument of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the claims should not be paid in full, but *pro rata* with the Government outlay for the war, can hardly be characterised in terms sufficiently strong. To say that his opinions are illogical, unjust, and a gross breach of the pledged engagements of Lord Elgin and Mr. Bruce, is the least that can be said. The parties interested may, however, rest assured that such a flagrant piece of injustice will not be tolerated by her Majesty's Government, and this fact we give on the best authority. The reply given to the deputation by Lord John Russell was to the effect that the matter should receive early and favourable attention; but until replies had been received from Mr. Bruce to certain questions, nothing further could be said. The precise grievance is included in a protest which has been handed to the Foreign Secretary, from which the following is an extract:—

"Reference to the wording of the respective treaties of 1858 and 1860, where it will be observed that the indemnity for private claims is invariably placed first, and separated from the amount to be paid to the Government, which is designated a remainder, and therefore that private losses are first to be made good. Such an interpretation is no less demanded by the justice of the case. These claims date from the destruction of the property, a period long prior to the time when the war expenses were incurred, and their non-payment is of excessive hardship to individuals who have already waited four years, while a further indefinite period of suspense is now in prospect. The only reason advanced for the proposed change in the disposition of the funds in hand is, that the war and consequent expenses were undertaken by the people of England for the purposes of the China merchants. Even if this were so, as British subjects, and part of the people of England, we submit that we are entitled to just protection and speedy indemnification against foreign aggression; but we respectfully deny that this was the fact. The war arose out of the case of the lorcha Arrow, with which the merchants had no concern, and their property was destroyed in retaliation for the acts of the British authorities. We conclude by asking no more than we believe to be justly due—viz., that as Englishmen we should not be placed in a worse position than Americans or Frenchmen, who have already received the far larger proportion of the amount of their losses incurred at the same time as our own, and that we should at once be paid out of the money now in hand."

On the subject of the French mail route to China, noticed in our last. *The Times* of this morning says:—

The execution of these services will, of course, involve the necessity of providing not only a powerful fleet, but numerous docking and repairing establishments, coaling stations, agencies and other facilities in Egypt and many other places; and it would seem, from the unusual extent of the advances proposed to be made by the State, and the time to be allowed before commencing operations, that the company and the Government are to some extent alive to the costly character of these essentials to an undertaking of the kind. The amount of the proposed subsidy is also very high, giving a rate of about 20s. per mile, or four times the amount paid to the English contractors for the India and China mail service. It is singular that a scheme which, in consequence of the promised extent of support from the Government, becomes almost divested of a commercial character, has attracted so little notice on this side of the Channel, and also that at the moment of its introduction the English public are about to be deprived of the advantage of a fortnightly communication between this country and China, the English service, as was stated yesterday, being intended to be reduced to a monthly one after the 1st of July next.

In a House of 580 members the proposition of Mr. Horsfall, that instead of the abolition of the paper duty the duty on tea should be lowered from 1s. 5d. to 1s. per lb., was rejected by the small majority of eighteen. Had there been more time for obtaining the requisite demonstrations of the sense of the country upon the question, the Government would probably have been defeated; indeed, there can be no doubt that a very large proportion of the members of the House of Commons voted with the Ministry against their inclinations, the arguments on the other side having throughout been of the most popular character, while those on the part of the Government, even from Mr. Gladstone, who was formerly one of the strongest opponents of the tea duty, consisted mainly of the unworthy and, as it has been thought, long exploded plea that the Chinese labourer, and not the English consumer, would derive the principal advantage of the change.

The death has been announced of Mr. James Malcolmson, one of the senior directors of the Bank of England, and head of the great Bombay firm of Forbes, Forbes, and Co.

Seventy-five guineas per cent. insurance has been paid at Lloyd's on the ship *Bio-bio*, overdue from England to China.

The construction of the Suez Canal is still making progress, but the opinion as to its practicability remains the same in this country. It is purely a French idea.

Telegrams can be forwarded through Corfu and Smyrna to catch the mails for India and China at Alexandria by the Submarine Telegraph Company in Threadneedle-street.

The East Indian Railway Company have agreed to empower their board to raise £6,000,000 by debentures at 5 per cent., convertible into stock at the option of the holder. The expenditure of this amount will be spread over a considerable period.

An interesting lecture was delivered on the evening of the 8th, at the Society of Arts, by Mr. P. L. Simmonds, on the trade, &c., of the Eastern Archipelago. The report will appear in our next.

The exact amount of specie shipped by the Pera, on the 4th inst., was £169,293, of which £132,190 is for Calcutta (including £103,990 in silver on Government account), £5,198 for Madras, £4,200 for Ceylon, £12,450 for Hong Kong, £12,255 for Shanghai, £1,200 for Singapore, and 1,200 for Alexandria. £156,995 is silver, and £12,298 gold. The amount on mercantile account is very limited, as was anticipated.

The steamer *Malacca* with the first portion of the cable to connect Malta with Alexandria, has left for Malta; and the *Rangoon*, it is expected, will be ready to follow on the 12th. As already announced, the *Malacca* will return for the remainder of the cable.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Business done.
100	Agra and United Service, Limited	50	81 to 83	81
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	20½ to 21	20½ 1
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	...	...
50	London Joint Stock	10	...	31½
100	London and Westminster	20	66 to 67	67 6½
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	47 to 48 xd.	47½ ¾ ¼ xd.
50	Union of London	12	25 to 26	...
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
1	Great Ship Company	All	¼ to ½	½
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	2½ to 3½	...
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	72 to 74	72½
50	Do. new	30	10 to 12 pm.	...
20	Red Sea and India Telegraph	All	17½ to 18½	...
10	Labuan Coal Company	2	2½ to 3	

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Low to fair common Congous have been difficult of sale at reduced prices, the arrivals having been large; good common has only been in limited request, and quotations are lower, say about 1s. per lb.; flavory kinds, under 1s. 3d. per lb., have been much depressed, and show a reduction of fully 1d. per lb. Fair to good Kaisows are in steady demand at full prices. Fair to good Ho-hows and Ning-chows have been sold to some extent at rather irregular prices, and, on the whole, may be quoted rather easier. Good and fine Monings and Wopaks have been firmly maintained. Fine Kaisows are scaree, and command extreme prices. Common Tayshans continue very heavy, but good descriptions are saleable at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. Fair to good Souchongs remain without alteration; fine have met with a moderate inquiry. Common to good Oolongs have been saleable at the low prices established; fine have been wanted. Flowery Pekoes continue most difficult of sale, even at very low prices. Common Scented Capers are still abundant, and the price remains about 9d. per lb. for clean kinds; good and fine have been more inquired for. Scented Orange Pekoes show but little change, except in medium Foo-Chow kinds, which have been sold at 1d. per lb. lower. In Green Teas the demand for export to New York and Canada has cleared off all the common descriptions of Twankay and Young Hyson at fully 2d. per lb. higher, and those of Japan growth have been taken in the absence of China kinds. Hysons have also been in better demand at full prices to 1d. per lb. advance. Gunpowders under 2s. per lb. are very scarce, and realise 1d. per lb. advance; in the grades over 2s. per lb. there is less decided change, but the tendency is to higher prices for all Moyune kinds. Ping Sueys maintain former rates. Canton Young Hysons and Gunpowers show a rise of 1d. to 2d. per lb., and the commoner kinds have been taken for export, and in these the rise has been greatest. The *Ocean Gem* arrived on the 23rd ult. with the first direct cargo of Tea from Japan, consisting of Oolongs and Green Teas of the same quality as those previously received *via* Shanghai. The great bulk of the Green Teas has been realised at full prices, but the Oolongs are difficult of sale. The public sales during the month comprise 60,000 packages, of which 14,226 packages were sold, including 7,224 packages without reserve. The stock on the 1st of May of all descriptions of Black was in London 69,608,997 lbs., and of Green, 5,232,465 lbs. The total delivery was of Black, 23,956,467 lbs., and of Green, 3,679,073 lbs. The stock at Liverpool was of Black, 3,699,443 lbs., and of Green, 65,659 lbs. The total delivery was of Black, 2,458,870 lbs., and of Green, 189,681 lbs. The imports in London to the 1st of May have been, of Black, 36,913,292 lbs., and of Green, 2,760,612 lbs., and at Liverpool, 4,047,265 lbs. of Black and 224,387 lbs. of Green. According to the circular of Messrs. Mitchell, Aspinall, and Skipper, the amount of Tea afloat at the present time is 16,349,298 lbs. against 16,992,348 lbs. at the same period in 1860.

SILK.—We have to report a changed market for Silk. All was going well to the close of April—unusually large deliveries, diminished arrivals, and comparative ease in the money market, all tending to a restoration of confidence and general purchase at gradually stiffening prices—but with the first bad news from America the demand began to slacken, and is now reduced to a very moderate scale. The deliveries, too, appear to be relapsing to a very average rate. The improved prices are at present fairly maintained. Japan Silk shared in the general currency of demand while it lasted, and now shares in the general slackness, except for quite the highest closses, of which some few small parcels have lately been landed. Chinese thrown silk has continued throughout entirely unnoticed.

			Superior.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	22 6 to	24 0		
„ No. 3 and 4	18 6	22 0		
„ No. 5	17 6	18 0		
Taysaam	12 6	16 6	16 6 to	19 0
Ditto, long reel	14 0	16 0	16 0	17 0
Canton	9 0	15 0	16 0	17 0
Chinese thrown	16 0	19 0	20 0	21 6
Japan	13 0	18 0	21 0	30 0
Yuenla	10 0	22 0		

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock.		Unsold Stock.		Delivered.	
	May 1, 1861.	May 1, 1860.	May 1, 1861.	May 1, 1860.	Jan. 1 to May 8, 1861.	Jan. 1 to May 8, 1860.
Bengal	2,623	1,892	2,683	3,056	2,899	4,384
China	12,502	6,191	11,699	11,040	23,914	19,289
Japan	1,771	687	2,039	325	3,209	1,388
Canton	787	597	1,024	1,123	684	852
Chinese Thrown	751	1,085	2,397	3,426	623	941

SUGAR.—The market has been particularly heavy, and prices mostly show a decline of 6d.; 750 bags of Penang sold at 33s. to 36s. for good mid. to fine brown, and 36s. 6d. to 39s. for low and mid. yellow.

COFFEE.—Market quiet and sales at easier rates. Native Ceylon 61s. 6d. to 62s. for good ordinary plantation, 67s. to 74s. for fine ordinary.

RICE.—Speculations have entirely withdrawn. Sales of Necranzie at 10s. 3d., Bassein 9s. 6d.

PEPPER.—Sales of 1,800 bags of Batavia at 3½d. to ⅝ for mid. to fair, 500 bags of Singapore black at 3⅞d.

SAGO.—Market is still dull; a parcel of 2,000 boxes sold at 17s. for fair small, 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. for good and fine bright. 15s. 6d. to 16s. for fair medium of 1,800 boxes of Borneo Company's Pearl; nearly all were retired. FLOUR.—Small sales at previous rates.

SPICES.—Cinnamon.—The quarterly sales comprised 1,350 bales of Ceylon, which sold at 1d. to 2d. a pound higher; superior fetching 2s. 6d. to 3s. 1d.; seconds, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 9d.; thirds, 11d. to 1s. 4d.; fourths, 7d. to 9d. Cassia Lignea: 1,500 boxes at auction, mostly sold at 85s. to 92s. Cassia buds: 70 cases very common sold at 64s. to 72s. Cloves: No public sales, and only small private. Mace: Part of a lot of 40 cases of Penang sold at auction at 9d. to 1s. Nutmegs: Sales of a portion of 50 cases Penang, and 5 Singapore, at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 8d. for fair small.

HEMP.—Sales of Manila to a fair extent at £21 to £22. 10s. for fair to good roping. 1,200 bales at auction—nearly all were retired.

COTTON.—A large business has been done. Prices are fully ¼d. a lb. higher. Sales of Surat at 5¼d. to 6⅜d.

JAPAN WAX.—Market steady. 900 boxes have been sold at auction at 53s. to 54s. 6d. for middling block, and 58s. to 58s. 6d. for fair.

TOBACCO.—No transactions in Manila.

TIN.—Sales of Straits at 125s. but 123s. is now the quotation. Banca 126s. to 127s. Antimony ore, no change.

GAMBIER.—Of 1,700 bales at auction, about one-fourth sold, 15s. to 16s. for damaged. Cutch: Very flat. Of 2,500 bags at auction, a few only sold, at 22s. to 24s.

MISCELLANEOUS.—India Rubber: Small sales at 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4⅛d. Camphor: Sales of 150 chests, at 220s. to 230s. Higher prices are now demanded. Sapanwood: 43 tons of Siam sold at £8 5s. to £8 15s.; prices on the rise. Soy: 230 casks of China at auction, all returned. Private sales at 2s. 4d. 258 tubs of Japan sold at 8d. to 10d. Rhubarb: 18 chests at auction, retired. Mother-o'-Pearl shells: Singapore scarce; Manila no sales. Star Anniseed: 300 boxes at auction, all retired; market dull. Sticklac: 70 bags sold at 70s. Gum Benjamin: sales of fourth quality Sumatra at 50s. to 51s. Damar: about 200 cases sold at 45s. to 46s. 6d. Gamboge: quiet, and no sales. Rattans: 15,000 bundles of Singapore, 13,000 Penang, and 4,000 Batavia sold at 1s. 7d. to 1s. 9d. per 100. Elephants' teeth: no sales. Vermillion: of 35 cases at auction, a few only sold at 2s. 5d. to 2s. 6d. for good genuine. Galangal Root: prices lower; sales of 400 bags at auction, about half sold at 15s. to 15s. 6d. Cubebs: sales at an advance of 30s.; £7. 10s. to £8. 10s. is now quoted. Dragons' Blood: no sales. Galls: China and Japan are in demand at 40s. to 45s. Rum: sales at 1s. 8½d.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £6. 5s. to £6. 10s.; nail rods, £7 to £7. 17s. 6d.; hoops, £9 to £9. 7s. 6d.; sheets, single, £9. 5s. to £9. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8 to £8. 7s. 6d.; rails, £5. 5s. to £5. 10s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £17. 10s. to £18.

COPPER.—Sheet and sheathing, 11d.; yellow metal, 9¼d.

TIN.—125s. for block; 126s. for bar. The plates, best charcoal, I.C., 29s. to 30s. per box.

LEAD.—English pig, £20. 15s, to £22. 5s.; shot, patent, £24. 10s.; sheet, £22; spelter, £18. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £24; quicksilver, £7 per bottle.

The export of metals from London and Liverpool up to the 30th April has been as follows:—To SINGAPORE: Yellow metal, 52 tons; copper, sheet and sheathing 40; iron, bars 87, nail rods 300, foreign 52; spelter, 25; tin plates, 300 boxes; lead, pig, 70 tons; steel, English 2, foreign 15. To HONG KONG: Yellow metal, 126 tons; copper, sheet and sheathing, 24; rods, 2; iron bars 55, hoops 3, sheets 12, nail rods 712; spelter, 25; tin plates, 3,500 boxes; lead, pig, 896 tons, sheet, 12; steel, foreign, 20; quicksilver, 22,116 lbs. To SHANGHAI: Yellow metal, 12 tons; copper, sheet and sheathing, 3; rods, 2; iron, bars 215, hoops 96, sheets 29, nail rods 1,017; spelter, 99; tin plates, 710 boxes; lead, pig, 1,143 lbs.; steel, English 1, foreign 15; quicksilver, 1,600 lbs. To MANIDA: Iron, bars, 241 tons, hoops 17, sheets 24; lead, pig, 51. To BATAVIA: Copper, sheet and sheathing, 65 tons: rods, 2; iron, bars 252, hoops 15, sheets 104, nail rods 17; spelter, 25; zinc, 6; tin plates, 490 boxes; steel, English 3, foreign 10.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton during the present year by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers:—

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£212,096
Foo-Chow-Foo	—	17,392
Hong Kong	—	143,790
Manila	—	—
Singapore	12,219	71,393
Penang	—	18,624

FROM MARSEILLES.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	34,077
Hong Kong	—	19,904
Singapore	2996	3,796
Penang	—	44
Foo-Chow-Foo	—	4,400

EXCHANGES.

	Bank Bills, 60 days' sight.		House Bills, 60 days' sight.
On Singapore (dols.) Bank Bills	4s. 8d.	Buy at	4s. 2d.
On Hong Kong, ditto	4s. 8d.	Do.	4s. 2d.

GOLD AND SILVER.

	£	s.	d.
Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3	17	9
Spanish Doubloons	3	17	3
United States Gold Coin	3	16	3
Silver in Bars	0	5	1⅜
Mexican Dollars	0	5	0¼
Carolus Dollars	0	6	6

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The market both for yarns and for piece-goods has shown greater quietness than can be recollected in either department for a very long time back. In yarns buyers are holding aloof, mainly from the high prices asked by spinners, whose quotations are still rising since the end of last week, cotton being again dearer. In the cloth market there is next to no business at all. Buyers will do nothing at present prices and with the unfavourable accounts they receive from abroad; while, on the other hand, manufacturers seem almost equally unwilling to press their productions for sale. The last advices received report heavy losses both at Calcutta and Bombay, and no doubt these will have a tendency to make buyers more cautious than ever. The dearness of discounts has also to be taken into consideration. The following is from the circular of Mr. Mendel, of the 7th inst.:—"The limited demand reported last week has become still more so; the few sales practicable were made at some slight concession from the quoted rates, which remain nominally unaltered; more especially does this apply to goods. Yarns are better maintained with very little doing."

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

CITY, MONDAY AFTERNOON.

A company has been proposed by Mr. J. A. Boulton to run a line of screw steamers *viâ* the Cape to Australia, China, and Japan. The shares of the China and Japan Steam Company are quoted at ½ to ¾ premium.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN TABLE.—Off the Wight, from Tjilatjap, Ida Maria de Raath. May 9, at Falmouth, from Akyab, for Antwerp, Leopold Cateaux, leaky. April 23, at Boston, from Manila and Batavia, Eloisa, with damaged rudder, &c.; 25, at Boston, from Manila Revere; 11, at Deal, from Macao, Standard; 28, at Cadiz, from Manila, America; 11, at Penzance, from Maulmain, Wm. Brown.

DEPARTURES.—May 6, from off South Foreland, for Batavia, Doctrina en Amicitia; 8, from Deal, for Batavia, Wilhelmine and Clara; 7, for Macassar, Gustav and Ernst; 7, from off the Start, for Batavia, Jacob Anna, from off Dungeness, for China, Breden Eek; 11, from London, for Singapore and Penang, Hulla; 8, from the Lizard, for Sourabaya, Holland.

SPOKEN.—Alfred, Amsterdam to Batavia, 13th March, 30 s., lon. 25; Ralston, Singapore to Liverpool, 27th March, 2 N., 23 W.; Rocket Boston to Batavia, Jan. 12, 5 N., 22 W.

LAID ON.—At Liverpool, for Hong Kong and Canton, Queensberry; for Singapore, Amathea.

Shipping Intelligence.

(The Reports for America will be found in our Correspondent's Letter.)

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
May 6	Off Dartmouth	Shanghai	Cambalu	Frazer.
— 4	Off Falmouth	Foo-Chow Foo	Southern Cross	Brishow.
Apr. 13	New York	Do.	Sancho Panza	Hull.
— 26	Portsmouth	Hong Kong	Cressy	Gooch.
Mar 28	Demerara	Do.	Sebastopol	Lowther.
May 4	Off Plymouth	Do.	Indomitable (s.)	Carew.
— 7	London	Do.	Macduff	Blacklock.
— 7	Portsmouth	Do.	Mars (tpt.)	Anderson.
Apr. 13	Havana	Macao	May Queen	Jordan.
Mar 31	Do.	Do.	Francois 1er (s.)	Conil.
April 1	Do	Do.	Reina del Oceano	Sarachaga.
May 1	London	Canton	Hanee	M'Ilwrath.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Waverley	Upton.
— 1	Hamburg	Manila	Maria Louisa	Barrosa.
— 5	Off Scilly	Do.	Edwin Fox	Ferguson.
— 3	Hamburg	Do.	Voladora	Arana.
Apr. 3	Boston	Do.	Templar	Martin.
— 14	New York	Manila & Mauritius	John Haven	Strong.
— 17	Bremen	Singapore	Clio	Frohling.
— 26	Hamburg	Do.	San Francisco	Stortenbecke
— 23	St. Nazaire	Do.	Cecilie	Bossuet.
— 28	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Anna	Bok.
— 28	Cuxhaven	Do.	Canoe	Barens.
— 29	Off Dungeness	Do.	Argonaut	Wielems.
May 24	Off Falmouth	Do.	Susanna	Vonck.
— 4	Texel	Do.	Willem Eggers	Faber.
— 1	Hamburg	Do.	Elbe	Muhlewroth.
Apr. 24	Deal	Do.	Wilhelmina	Van Dale.
— 22	Off Dungeness	Do.	Krimpen aan de Lek	Ouwehand.
— 25	Off the Wight	Do.	Constantin	Overgaauw.
— 26	Hamburg	Do.	Georg Heinrich	Schmidt,
— 27	Texel	Do.	Zeenymph	Roggen.
— 25	Brouwershaven	Do.	Vooruit	Kool.
— 27	Off Dungeness	Do.	Argus	Smet.
May 4	Queenstown	Sourabaya	Mary	
— 4	Do.	Java	Henriette	
— 3	Do.	Do.	Britannia	Krause.
— 26	Clyde	Do.	Isabella	Page.
— 28	Deal	Do.	Jacobus	Loon.
— 28	Off Scilly	Do.	Bezoekie	Kusman.
— 26	Texel	Banjoewangie	Grootmeester National	Grese.
— 26	Do.	Tjibatjap	Gezusters	Fischer.
May 1	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Doelwyk	Vd. Putte.
Apr. 26	Do.	Passaroeang	Salatija	Bresthorst.
— 30	Falmouth	Maulmain	Gotheborg	Bjorck.
May 1	Cowes	Rangoon	South Sea	Long.
— 7	Falmouth	Do.	Haidee	Hobbs.
Apr. 28	Do.	Do.	Cataraqui	Minto.
— 29	Bremen	Bassein	Aristides	Steengrafe.
May 4	Falmouth	Do.	Ina Russell	Williams.
— 6	Do.	Akyab	Augusta Hillmann	Niejahr.
Apr. 22	Cowes	Do.	Reyerward	Sablairolles.
— 23	St. Nazaire	Do.	Veloce	Bertin.
— 25	Liverpool	Do.	Wallace	
May 1	London	Maulmain	Sea Lion	Alexander.
Apr. 28	Sheerness	Do.	Blundell	Jacobs.
— 25	Liverpool	Do.	Isola Bella	Jepsen.
— 25	Deal	Do.	Lorenzo	Hamlen.
— 28	Falmouth	Bankok	Benledi	Gunbon.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
May 8	London	Amoor River	Bride of the Seas	Donald.
Apr 25	Ditto	Shanghai	Julia	
— 26	Liverpool	Do.	Spirit of the Deep	
— 27	Cardiff	Do.	Colingsburg	Hinds.
— 28	Ditto	Do.	Earl Windsor	Dick.
May 7	London	Do.	Capiolani	Shiell.
— 7	Liverpool	Do.	Kate Carnie	McLean.
Apr. 10	Glasgow	Ningpo	Nankin (ss)	
— 27	Swansea	Hong Kong	St. Louis	Jacobs.
Mar 31	Pernambuco	Do.	Southern Cross	Manley.
May 4	Off Newhaven	Do.	Cleveland	
Apr. 22	Liverpool	Manila	Clementina	Mullett.
May 5	Ditto	Do.	Casas	Pardo.
Apr 28	Sunderland	Singapore	Johan Lange	Lembke.
— 30	Clyde	Do.	British Queen	
May 3	Off the Goodwin	Do.	Clara Wheeler	
— 2	Liverpool	Do.	Susan Douglas	Brewster.
— 7	Off Dover	Do.	Maria Wilhelmine	
— 2	Liverpool	Newport&Singapore	Energy	Kelly.
— 2	Ditto	Batavia	D. F. Weber, sen.	Leese.
— 2	Off Dover	Do.	Noach	Wierichs.
Apr. 29	Off Hastings	Do.	Weltevredfen	
— 24	Portsmouth	Do.	S. van Heel	
May 6	Deal	Do.	Cornelia	Jaski.
Apr 25	Off Beachy Head	Do.	Concurrent	
— 30	Hambg. to Macassar	Do.	Citadelle	Horman.
May 1	Ditto	Do.	Gustav and Ernst	Hansen.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Hong Kong: Albuera. For Hong Kong and Canton: John Scott, Lauderdale, Millbrook, Patna. For Shanghai: Anglo Saxon, Merse, Harkaway, Henry Miller. For Singapore: Richard Thornton, Ocean Bride. For Singapore and Penang: Hulla. For Singapore and Bankok: Avondhu. For Penang: Ecliptic. For Batavia: Eliza Thornton. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Martha Jacoba. For Kanagawa and Nagasaki, Ocean Gem. For Manila: Prudencia.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Manila: Perla, Matilde. For Shanghai: Mirage, Mansfield, Celestial, Tartar, Aerolite. For Hong Kong and Canton: Friar Tuck, Valdivia, Koh-i-noor. For Batavia and Samarang: Schlosser. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Vrede o' Thyen. For Batavia and Singapore: Eleonora. For Singapore: Electric, Johanna Stoll-Aden.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Sourabaya: Antonia. For Batavia and Singapore: Eagle. For Singapore and Penang: Abdul Medjid. For Singapore: Congo.

SPOKEN.

COSSACK, Liverpool to Batavia, April 13, 46 N., 22 W.
AMAZONE, Batavia to Amsterdam, Feb. 25, 26 S., 5 E.
MARY and HILLEGONDA, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 13.
NEPHEW, from Hong Kong, March 16, 3 N.
YORKSHIRE LASS (?), Foo-chow-Foo to London, April 8, 46 N., 32 W.
CHALLENGER, London to Shanghai, March 6, 3 S., 26 W.
POLMAISE, London to China, March 2, 16 S., 32 W.
SEAFORTH, Liverpool to Batavia, March 17, 3 N., 23 W.
NORTHFLEET, London to Hong Kong, March 18, 3 N., 24 W.
IONIAN, Liverpool to Batavia, March 12, 19 N., 25 W.
NIPHON, Liverpool to Hong Kong, March 17, 3 N., 25 W.
SUMATRA, Banjoewangie to Dorat, March 12, 2 S., 11 W.
ROBIN Hood, London to Hong Kong, Feb. 24, off the island of Trinidad.
FRIESLAND, Amsterdam to Batavia, March 15, 7 N., 24 W.
POST (Bremen ship), Sunderland to Singapore, March 15, 5 N., 21 W.
HEROES OF ALMA, Canton to London, March 13, off Algoa Bay.
VALPARAISO, Batavia to Amsterdam, March 12, 12 S., 9 W.
STAD GONDA, Banjoewangie to Holland, March 8, 14 S., 7 W.
BILLITON, Batavia to Rotterdam, April 6, 21 N., 34 W.
CROMWELL, Boston to Batavia, April 6, 20 N., 36 W.
GRAHAM, Manila to Liverpool, April 4, 18 N., 34 W.
ALBION, Manila to Liverpool, March 29, 22 S., 67 E.
ELMIRA, for Batavia, out 31 days, March 20.
TUNG YU, Shanghai to London, March 16, 25 S., 57 E.
CONSTANCE, Balli to Rotterdam, March 13, 28 S., 57 E.
RESOLUTE, Cardiff to Hong Kong, March 27, 11 S., 35 W.
CELEBES, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, March 26, 1 N., 23 W.
ACADIA, Padang to Amsterdam, April 8, 16 N., 34 W.
WALCHEREN, from Banjoewangie, March 23 (?), 5 N., 20 W.
EERSTELLING, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 12, 41 N., 18 W.

EXPECTED.

From JAPAN.—At London: Matanzas, Junapore.

From CHINA.—At London: Sunbeam, Chilo, Athelstan, Lady Ann, Northern Cross, Heroes of Alma, Oithona, Pruth, Bankside, Moneka, Spartan, Spray of the Ocean, Tung Yu, James Paton, Dawstone Orissia, Wolverine, Vanguard, Morayshire, Shantung Yaratilda, Bacchante, Corea. At Liverpool: Carolina, Sir Isaac Newton, Chevy Chase (str.). At Outports: Lord Dalhousie, Alfred, York, Henry Moore, Bosphorus, Witch of the Seas, Khersonese, Highflyer, and steamers Adelaide, Powerful, Kingman, Merchantmen.

From SINGAPORE.—At London: Reward, Balaklava, Patriotess, Xiphias, Maldon, Robert Small, Knight, Lincelles, Rajah of Cochin. At Liverpool: Ralston, Mary Spencer, Jacatra. At Outports: Virginie, America, Johan Hermann.

From MANILA.—At London: Fanny, Mary. At Liverpool: G. B. Carr, Graham, Albion, Sales, Queen of the East. At Cork: Bonaventure, Agamemnon. At Queenstown: Mercia, Eliza Stewart, Glendoveer, Agamemnon.

From PENANG.—At London: Clara, Zenobia, Isabella Harnett.

From BATAVIA.—At London: West. At Falmouth: Koning Willem III.

From BANKOK.—For Falmouth: Main, Pauline.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Current freights to Shanghai, 40s. to 50s. per ton weight and meast; to Hong Kong, 35s. to 40s.; Singapore and Penang, 30s. to 45s.; to Manila, 35s. to 40s.; to Batavia, 45s. weight, 40s. meast; to Japan, 65s. weight and 60s. meast.

In coal freights to the East there have been very few transactions. One ship has been fixed Cardiff to Singapore at 29s. per ton, and the contractors now offer 27s. 6d.; for Shanghai, 50s. The quantity of coal exported in this direction the first three months of this year was 55,000 tons less than last, but the consumption is likely to be materially increased by the boats of the Messageries Imperiales, who will probably get a subsidy from the French Government and run a monthly line of steamers.

At Hamburg freights for the Eastern ports have a rising tendency, vessels of 400 to 600 tons being in much demand, and prices will probably rule higher as there is no lack of produce, manufactures, and other shipping articles. A vessel has been chartered here to sail from hence to Singapore at £2 15s. per ton, and all harbour expenses extra. £1,600 was paid in a lump for a vessel from hence to Nicolayeffsky on the Amoor, and thence to one or several Chinese ports at the choice of the super-cargo at a subsequent rate of £150 per month and all harbour expenses reimbursed. Vessels of about 400 tons have been taken up to load for Batavia and then proceed to another port of Java at £2 per ton.

INSURANCE.

The following are the current rates of premium at Lloyd's, according to the class of vessels, &c.:—To Hong Kong, 40s. to 50s. Shanghai, 50s. to 60s. Singapore, 30s. to 45s. Batavia, 30s. to 40s. Manila, 50s. to 60s. Nominal quotation for Yedo, 70s. to. 80s.

At Hamburg, for Batavia and Singapore, 40s. China and Manila, 40s. to 50s.

WAR RISK on American ships cleared or about to clear, from 20s. to 40s. per cent. extra.

CASUALTIES.

ST. HELENA, 14th March.—The Eagle of London, Malone, from Cardiff to Manila, was abandoned Feb. 2, off Mauritius. She had experienced a hurricane on 29th Jan., had been thrown on her beam ends, and obliged to cut away her masts.

NEW YORK, 12th April.—The Hankow (s.,) hence to Hong Kong, put into Norfolk Va. yesterday, leaky; she had encountered a heavy gale, which carried away rudder, stove bulwarks, and did other damage.

BALTIMORE.—The Howqua steamer, from New York for China, arrived here previous to 15th April for repairs.

The Sancho Panza, Hall, which arrived at New York 13th April, from Foo-Chow-Foo, experienced a typhoon from E. to N.E. and N.N.W., on 4th Jan., in lat. 17 N., lon. 115 E., had bowsprit sprung, rudder-head split, and cabins filled with water, and on the 9th April while running in a heavy gale from S. to E.N.E., shipped a sea which stove house and filled the cabin.

The Canton, (Dutch barque) Kettle, from Rotterdam to Batavia, put into Table Bay 9th March, leaky.

The Indomitable, (s.,) Carew, which arrived at Portsmouth 6th May, from Hong Kong had encountered a heady N. N. W. gale, near the Western Islands.

The Robert Small, (ship) Darke, from Singapore, was towed into the Mauritius by a steam tug 27th March, with loss of all three masts and rudder, having experienced a severe hurricane 3rd and 4th March, which commenced at E.S.E., veered to S.S.E., moderated for four hours, and then blew again from N.N.W.

The Gorilla, (British ship) from Newport to Hong Kong, with fore and mainmasts sprung and the ship very leaky, having had bad weather running down the Easting, was spoken 5th Feb., in lat. 40 S., lon. 106 E. by the Star Queen, which arrived at Mauritius previous to 6th April.

The Eloisa, from Manila to Boston, 233 days out, was spoken 21st April, sixty miles E. of Cape Cod, short of provisions and with loss of rudder, mizen topmast, foretop gallant mast and jibboom.

The Catharina Maria, Schuchard, from Banjoewangie to Rotterdam, which put into Simons's Bay 27th Feb., leaky, has been condemned there.

At ST. HELENA.—West Hawkins, from Batavia. March 27, Brouwershaven, from Batavia, and sailed 30 for Rotterdam; Amsterdam, Wilgmink, from Java, and sailed 30 for Amsterdam. 29, Minister Pahud, Kievit, from Batavia, and sailed, 30 for Rotterdam; Alice Thorndike, Thorndike, from Canton, and sailed 30 for Havana. 30, Oithon, Holmes, from Canton, and sailed for London.

At TABLE BAY, March 15.—Red Riding Hood, Nicholson, from Canton, and sailed 16 for Demerara. 19, Francis P. Sage, Ingasoll, from Macao, and sailed 20 for Havana.

At MORSEL BAY, March 12.—Emma Arentzer, for Singapore.

At ST. VINCENT, C.V., March 27.—Morge (Russian gunboat), from Plymouth, and sailed 31 for the Amoor.

THE SAM MENDEL.—An exceedingly handsome new iron ship, named the *Sam Mendel*, after the well-known commission agent, at Manchester, has just been added to the fine fleet of vessels trading between Liverpool, India, and China. She is 1,117 tons register.

LIGHTHOUSES IN THE RED SEA.—The operations for erecting three lighthouses in the Red Sea are temporarily suspended, partly on account of the approach of the hot season. Some difficulty has been found in erecting one of the lighthouses, which was intended to be placed on a dangerous shoal, on account of the foundation being sand. The Peninsular and Oriental Company have contributed a very handsome sum towards the undertakings.

SPANISH STEAMERS.—Contracts have been made with Messrs. Thomson and Messrs. Caird, of the Clyde, to build two mail steamers of 2,000 tons for the Spanish Government. Mr. Mare, of Millwall, and Mr. Green, of Blackwall, have contracted to build also for the Spanish Government two screw steamers of fifty guns.

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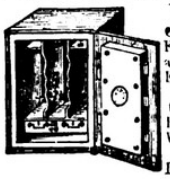

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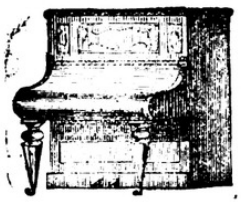

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